



Daily Report

Near East & South Asia

FBIS-NES-92-016
Friday
24 January 1992

Daily Report

Near East & South Asia

FBS-NES-92-018

CONTENTS

24 January 1992

NOTICE TO READERS: An * indicates material not disseminated in electronic form.

FRONT PAGE

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

Inter-Arab Affairs

Leaders Address Jerusalem Committee Session	3
King Hassan Speaks [Rabat Radio]	3
Yasir 'Arafat's Address [Rabat Radio]	3
Committee Issues Recommendations [Rabat Radio]	6
Ministers Confer During Jerusalem Committee Talks	7
Iraqi Foreign Minister Meets 'Arafat [INA]	7
Receives Moroccan Counterpart [INA]	8
Syria's al-Shar' Receives 'Arafat [SANA]	8
Meets Saudi, Algerian Counterparts [Damascus Radio]	8
Syria, Iran Reportedly in Nuclear Weapons Pact [Hamburg DPA]	8

Palestinian Affairs

Delegation Says No Israeli Autonomy Plan Received [Tel Aviv Radio]	8
'Arafat Interviewed on Peace Talks, Arab Ties [AKHBAR AL-USBU' 23 Jan]	9
Al-Hut: Self-Rule Must Guarantee Sovereignty [Beirut Radio]	11
Solution To Refugee Issue To Be Sought at Talks [AFP]	11
Qaddhafi Comments on Peace Talks, Self-Rule [AKHBAR AL-USBU' 23 Jan]	12
Editorial Urges Postponement of Multilateral Talks [AL-QUDS 21 Jan]	13
PNSF Urges Arabs To Boycott Moscow Talks [Al-Quds Palestinian Radio]	14
Commentary Views U.S. Role of 'Observer' at Talks [Algiers VOP]	14
Editorial Sees 'Appeasement' Policy Toward Israel [AL-FAJR 20 Jan]	15
PFLP's Habash Hospitalized; 'Power Struggle' On [SHIHAN 25-31 Jan]	15
Arab Countries Urged To Refuse Deportees [JORDAN TIMES 23 Jan]	16
PLO Opposition to Deletion of 'Jihad' Affirmed [Algiers VOP]	17

ARAB AFRICA

Algeria

FIS Statement Denounces Hachani Arrest [Algiers Radio]	19
Said, Kheir Tipped as Successors to Hachani [Tehran Radio]	19
Hachani Criticizes Government's Actions [London MBC TV]	19
Press Notes Hachani Arrest, EC Credit Freeze [APS]	19
Two Journalists Linked to FIS Arrested [AFP]	20
Government Releases 5 Journalists [Algiers Radio]	20
National Consultative Council To Be Established [Algiers Radio]	20
Boudiaf at Defense Ministry; Nezzar Gives Speech [Algiers TV]	20
Brakimi Views Iranian Ties, State Council's Role [London AL-HAYAH 20 Jan]	21
FLN's Mihri Discusses Party's Future [Paris LE FIGARO 21 Jan]	22
Annar Resigns From FLN Central Committee [Algiers Radio]	23
RCD Statement Supports State Council [Algiers Radio]	23

Egypt

Musa Affirms Country's Attendance at Peace Talks [Jerusalem Radio]	23
Al-Baz Explains Policy on Talks [Cairo Radio]	23
Al-Baz Discusses Opening Embassies in CIS [Cairo Radio]	24
Relations Sought With Former Republics [MENA]	24
Commentary Urges Expanded Economic Ties [Cairo Radio]	25

Libya

France Seeks 'Judicial' Cooperation From Tripoli [JANA]	25
'Downturn' in Relations With Egypt Seen [Cairo AL-WAFD 12 Jan]	26
Al-Qadhafi Receives Chadian Islamic Leader [JANA]	26
Al-Qadhafi Receives Mandela, PLO's 'Arafat [Tripoli Radio]	26
Official Receives Iranian Majles Delegation [JANA]	26

Morocco

Iranian Legislators Visit, Pledge Cooperation [MAP]	26
Laraki 'Satisfied' With Resumed Ties [IRNA]	27
King Hassan Receives South Africa's Mandela [Rabat Radio]	27
Departs 21 Jan [Rabat Radio]	27

Sudan

Iran Supplying Silkworm Missiles, F-7 Aircraft [Cairo AL-WAFD 19 Jan]	27
Further on Military Cooperation [London AL-HAYAH 13 Jan]	27
Finance Minister Reports on Visit to Iran [SUNA]	28
RCC Official Holds Talks With Iranian Envoy [SUNA]	28

ARABIAN PENINSULA

Bahrain

Shaykh Khalifah Views Regional Security Issues [London SAWT AL-KUWAYT AL-DUWALI 19 Jan]	29
--	----

Kuwait

UK Defense Secretary Confers With Leaders	29
Meets Prime Minister [Kuwait Radio]	29
Prepares Draft Defense Agreement [KUNA]	30
F-18 Aircraft To Feature in Air Shows [SAWT AL-KUWAYT AL-DUWALI 19 Jan]	30
More Than 5,000 Deported to Iraq in 2 Months [AFP]	30
Conference Urges Release of POW's in Iraq	30
Petroleum Minister Denies Oil Marketing Troubles [KUNA]	31

Oman

Information Minister on Egypt-Iran Mediation [AL-AHRAM AL-MASA'I 16 Jan]	31
--	----

Saudi Arabia

Popular Dissent Prompts Extensive Arrest Campaign [London AL-QUDS AL-'ARABI 22 Jan]	32
--	----

United Arab Emirates

Government To Cut Oil Production [SPA]	33
--	----

Republic of Yemen

Salih Addresses Interior Ministry Employees [Sanaa Radio]	33
Salih Opens Council of Representatives New Term [Sanaa Radio]	34
Council Hears Budget Report [Sanaa Radio]	35

7

IRAQ

Talk: U.S. 'Lost' Gulf War, Gained Arab Rancor [Baghdad VOP]	36
'Aziz Avows 'Defiant' Posture on UN Edicts [Amman AL-DUSTUR 22 Jan]	36
Al-Anbari: UN Oil Talks Set for 10 Feb [AL-THAWRAH 17 Jan]	37
Opposition Figure Urges Citizens To Oust Saddam [AFP]	37
Barzani Denies Dialogue on Autonomy Failed [Paris Radio Monte Carlo]	38

ISRAEL

Shamir Says Elections To Be Held in June [Jerusalem Radio]	39
Majority for Government Ensured by Tzomet Return [Jerusalem Radio]	39
Sharon Declares Plans To Run for Prime Minister [Jerusalem Radio]	39
Shamir Aides See Nothing New [Jerusalem Radio]	39
Detention of Six Lebanese Confirmed [DAVAR 24 Jan]	39
Temporary Injunction Against Deportation Granted [Tel Aviv Radio]	39
Deportation of Ramallans Urged [Jerusalem Radio]	39
Jewish Group, Saudi Leaders on Possible Ties [Tel Aviv Radio]	40
Bank Governor: Guarantees 'Extremely Crucial' [Jerusalem Radio]	40
New Palestinian Party in Territories Analyzed [HA'ARETZ 23 Jan]	40

JORDAN

Americans, Israelis 'Cooking Something Up' [AL-RAY 24 Jan]	41
Political Prisoners Freed by Syria Arrive in Amman [SHIHAN 25-31 Jan]	41
Royal Decree Appoints Salah Senate Member [Amman Radio]	41
Gulf War 'Not Disaster' for Arab Nation [AL-RAY 19 Jan]	41
Sudanese Envoy Arrives With Note for King Husayn [Amman Radio]	42
Gives al-Bashir Message to King [Amman Radio]	42

LEBANON

Further Reportage on Rshaf Village Blockade	43
Karami Asks Envoys To Pressure Israel [VOM]	43
UNIFIL Protests Division of Rshaf [AFP]	43
SLA Denies Demolishing Homes [Tel Aviv Radio]	43
Hizballah Denounces 'Silence' [Voice of the Oppressed]	43
Defense Minister Orders Army Deployment in South [Beirut Radio]	44
Blast Near Sujud Hits Lahd Vehicle [Beirut Radio]	44
Israeli Helicopters Raid Resistance Positions [Beirut Radio]	44
AFP Provides Details	44
Attacks Continue; Injured Girl Dies [Beirut Radio]	44
Washington Talks Delegates Return to Beirut [Beirut Radio]	44
'No Progress' Reported [Beirut Radio]	44
Hizballah Criticizes Saudis for Hosting Jews [Voice of the Oppressed]	45
Hizballah Deplores Arrest of Algeria's Hachani [Voice of the Oppressed]	45

SOUTH ASIA

Afghanistan

Yeltsin Thanks Najibollah for Russian Recognition [Kabul Radio]	46
Resistance Accepts Former King as Interim Head [Lahore THE NATION 23 Jan]	46
Jami'at Members Kill Hezb-e Islami Leader [Kabul Radio]	47
Hezb-e Islami Attacked in Nangarhar [Kabul Radio]	47
Pakistan Reports Afghan POW Release [Islamabad THE PAKISTAN TIMES 23 Jan]	47
Mojahedin Radio Begins Broadcasting [Peshawar THE FRONTIER POST 23 Jan]	48

Bangladesh

Two Killed in Local Election Violence [Dhaka International]	48
Sources Say Burmese Border Tension Easing [AFP]	48

India

Bomb Explodes in Kashmir Police Chief's Office [Delhi Radio]	49
Army Imposes 'Indefinite' Curfew [Delhi Radio]	49
RJP March Continues Amid Call for Suspension [Delhi Radio]	49
Marchers Reach Jammu [Delhi Radio]	50

Iran

Russian Nuclear Experts, Equipment Said Acquired [Iran's Flag of Freedom]	50
Velayati Refutes Report [IRNA]	50
Velayati Discusses Visit to Ukraine [IRNA]	51
Velayati, Afghans Hold Talks on Islamic Government [Tehran TV]	51
Deputy Minister Notes 'New Initiative' [AFP]	51
Conference Views Afghan Situation [Tehran TV]	51
Commentaries Assess UN-Libya Lockerbie Situation	51
'Selective' Fight Against Terrorism Scored [Tehran Radio]	51
U.S. Objectives Questioned [Tehran Radio]	52
Oil Minister Urges OPEC Unity To Raise Prices [AFP]	52
Velayati, Greek Official Discuss Regional Issues [Tehran TV]	53
Government Reportedly Executes 28 [Iran's Flag of Freedom]	53
IRGC, Armed Forces Come Under Single Command [Tehran Radio]	53
New IRGC Air Force Commander Named [Tehran TV]	53

Pakistan

More on Visit by Libyan Staff Major Jallud	53
Meets Prime Minister [JANA]	53
Meets Foreign Minister [JANA]	54
Meets With President [Islamabad Radio]	54
To Raise 'U.S. Threat' Issue [THE FRONTIER POST 21 Jan]	54
Sindh Chief Condemns Jay Sindh Statement [Islamabad Radio]	54
Strike Protests Leader Detainment [Delhi Radio]	54
Interior Minister Defends Sindhis [Islamabad Radio]	55
Former Intelligence Chief 'Prematurely' Retired [THE MUSLIM 21 Jan]	55
Kashmir Sets Day To Protest Indian Treatment [Islamabad Radio]	55

Sri Lanka

LTTE Militants Kill Eight Soldiers [LANKAPUVATHI]	55
---	----

Israel

Shamir said elections are to be held in June, Jerusalem radio reported. Altering an earlier decision to abstain, the Tzomet party will vote for the government in the 27 January no-confidence vote, the radio added. Ari'el Sharon announced that he will run for prime minister, according to the radio, which cited Shamir aides as saying that the declaration does not constitute "anything new." The IDF confirmed Amnesty International charges that six Lebanese are in custody, adding that the detainees are "directly or indirectly involved in terror activity in Lebanon" and are being "legally held," DAVAR disclosed. A temporary injunction was granted against the deportation of some Palestinians, Tel Aviv radio reported, while a military commander has decided to proceed with the deportation of five Ramallah activists, Jerusalem radio added. A Jewish group from the United States visited Riyadh recently and met the Saudi foreign minister, who said his country "unconditionally recognizes Israel's existence," Tel Aviv radio disclosed; the foreign minister said he "intends to attain full diplomatic relations with Israel," according to members of the group. In Lebanon, a comment on the Hizballah radio station Voice of the Oppressed criticized the Saudi move.

Algeria

An Islamic Salvation Front statement denounced the arrest of movement leader Hachani, Algiers radio reported. The chairman of the Higher State Council visited the Defense Ministry, according to Algiers television, which broadcast the defense minister's speech on the occasion. The formation of a national consultative council is under consideration, according to an EL-SALAM article reported by the radio.

Palestinian Affairs

Members of the delegation to peace talks told a Jerusalem news conference that they have not received an official autonomy proposal from Israel, Tel Aviv radio reported. PFLP leader George Habash is hospitalized in Jordan, according to SHIHAN, which added details of a power struggle within the movement.

Egypt

The country will attend the Moscow multilaterals even if Syria and the Palestinians do not, the foreign minister told an Israeli Knesset member in remarks reported by Jerusalem radio; 'Amr Musa added, however, that without the Syrians, no substantive discussions would be held.

Inter-Arab Affairs

The Jerusalem Committee heard speeches by King Hassan and Yasir 'Arafat, and the committee's final recommendations, all of which were broadcast by Rabat radio.

Iraq

Tariq 'Aziz said the country "will not bow" to possible Security Council resolutions, AL-DUSTUR disclosed. In an interview with Radio Monte Carlo, Kurdish leader Barzani denied that the dialogue with Baghdad on autonomy has failed.

Arabian Peninsula

In Saudi Arabia, "an extensive arrest campaign" has begun in response to "increasing internal pressures," the London paper AL-QUDS AL-'ARABI affirmed. The unrest, said to have resulted due to a government budget deficit, is found mostly among university students and is being led by clergy, the paper added. Another cause cited by the paper was the Kingdom's provision of oil to the United States at "very low prices." The Kuwaiti petroleum minister told SAWT

AL-KUWAYT that the country is having no trouble selling its oil, and denied rumors that it is offering discounts, KUNA reported. The United Arab Emirates said it is reducing oil production by 50,000 bbl/day, SPA disclosed. In Yemen, Sanaa radio carried an extensive account of 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih's speech to Ministry of Interior and Security personnel.

Iran

The country has recruited six Russian nuclear experts and arranged for the delivery of associated facilities, according to the clandestine Iran's Flag of Freedom radio; the foreign minister, who returned from a trip to Ukraine, denied similar reports in Western media, IRNA announced. The Army, Islamic Revolution Guards Corps, and the rest of the Armed Forces have all been placed under a single command, the chief of the Armed Forces General Staff told Tehran radio.

Jordan

About 3,000 "political detainees" arrived after being released by Syria, SHIHAN reported.

Sudan

"Sudanese military sources" said Iran is supplying Silkworm missiles and Chinese-made F-7 aircraft to the country, the Cairo paper AL-WAFD reported.

Afghanistan

Resistance groups have accepted a Pakistani proposal whereby the former king would rule the country for an interim period, according to the Lahore paper THE NATION. A radio run by the resistance began broadcasting inside the country, the Peshawar paper THE FRONTIER POST reported.

Inter-Arab Affairs

Leaders Address Jerusalem Committee Session

King Hassan Speaks

LD2301224692 Rabat Moroccan Kingdom Radio
Network in Arabic 1939 GMT 23 Jan 92

[Speech by King Hassan II at the 14th session of the Jerusalem Committee at the Royal Palace in Marrakech—live]

[Excerpts] Thanks be to God, and prayers and peace be on our messenger, his family and friends. Your Excellency, president of the state of Palestine, brother Mr. 'Arafat, your excellencies the ministers and heads of delegations, delegates: It is no doubt that the period during which the proceedings of our committee are held is a delicate and very critical one in view of the international atmosphere surrounding it, which is characterized by hesitation between hope and despair, the continuation of war and aspiration for peace, in a period marked by lies, calumnies, and facts which are not facts. All this puts us off our path, which is first and foremost the path of our fate as Muslims, the path of our religion as Muslims, the path of our identity as Muslims who want to remain like our forefathers, protecting ourselves with God's Book and following the light of his messenger's Sunnah.

There is no doubt that we must let the adversary feel that the Arab-Palestinian problem is between Arabs and Israelis. The issue of Jerusalem, however, is, above all, the problem of all Muslims and Christians, wherever they are. We should draw the attention of the adversary to the fact that if we [as heard] carry on denying the right of Muslims in their holy Jerusalem, if they carry on in this way, then we will emerge from a political conflict into a religious one. This kind of conflict cannot have good results, like in the past. The three heavenly religions are based on dialogue: "Say, people of the Book! Come now to a word common between us and you." [Koranic verse] They are based on recognizing the unity between God and the brotherhood in our belief in God. It is a historical crime to drag these religions into stupid and religious war for just one reason, which is stubbornness, tyranny, and unjustified obstinacy.

From this premise, I am sure that you, all members of the Jerusalem Committee, agree with me when I say that we must make an appeal to all wise men and reasonable people, and to all the representatives of the three religions, to warn them, to advise them, and to put these dangers before them. We should all do every possible thing to avoid failing them.

I do not want, as president of the Jerusalem Committee, to attempt to outdo the negotiators in the peace process. Those who are negotiating are the foremost owners of the cause. It is their land that is occupied. It is their peoples who are suffering.

But as advice, and to satisfy my conscience, in my capacity as president of the Jerusalem Committee and as a Muslim only, I say: We must not take aspirin or sleeping pills and go to sleep—we as Muslims—with regard to the occupied land in Jerusalem.

We do not want it said that the question of holy Jerusalem will be raised in the third or fourth round. I say: No to the occupation of holy Jerusalem, which is above all the cause of the 1.2 billion Muslims throughout the world.

At least an official, publicly declared statement must be made by the parties concerned to the effect that whatever conclusion is reached concerning other occupied territories, that it will also cover, without exception, Jerusalem, which is occupied by force.

This is not only a political trust, but also a trust which lives with us and will continue to live with us as Muslims, individuals and groups, until we meet with our God. Therefore, we must be loyal to our consciences and to our peoples.

Gentlemen, since 1979, this slave of God has been occupying the presidency of your honorable committee. With all frankness and all faith, I can say that I have served the cause of holy Jerusalem with my full heart, faith, and conviction.

There is no doubt that the problem we have before us today demands from us, and from all Islamic countries, that we mobilize ourselves to overcome it. This is because we can forget our identity as citizens, but we can never forget or try to forget our identity as Muslims who believe in a religion of tolerance, solidarity, justice, and love.

If we want to be men building the future, as we built the past, then we must not turn our back on our identity and our religion.

Let us conclude this session with a verse from the Koran—the last verse, I believe, of the Isra' Sura, that Sura which gave the al-Aqsa mosque its religious and political value, as the first qiblah. [Koranic verse omitted] God has spoken the truth. Praise and God's mercy be upon you. [applause]

Yasir 'Arafat's Address

LD2301224692 Rabat Moroccan Kingdom Radio
Network in Arabic 1900 GMT 23 Jan 92

[Speech by PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat at the Jerusalem Committee meeting held in the Royal Palace in Marrakech—live]

[Excerpts] With your permission, Your Majesty, I have received this call from the Higher Islamic Council in Jerusalem. Perhaps you would kindly ask the brother secretary general [of the Jerusalem Committee] to circulate it among the delegations.

The call is addressed to all Muslims from the Higher Islamic Council in Jerusalem. It appeals to Muslims to save holy Jerusalem. [passage omitted]

I thank his majesty the king for preparing this important meeting in fraternal Morocco, with all the important and basic meanings this meeting signifies under the conditions, facts and challenges that face not only the Palestinian people, the inhabitants of Jerusalem, the Arab nation, the Islamic nation, the Christians of the world, but every free honorable man who refuses to accept the crimes, violations, and assaults by the Israeli occupation forces in Palestine, particularly in Jerusalem.

The gravest of these crimes was their annexation of Jerusalem and its proclamation as the eternal capital, God forbid, of greater Israel. Greater Israel means not only the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, or the Golan or southern Lebanon. As you remember, a year ago, your majesty, I presented to you and showed you a map of greater Israel, about which they talk, stretching from the Nile to the Euphrates. They minted their 10-agarot coin depicting this map, and this was reported in the JEW JOURNAL [as heard] on 19 February 1989 in America, an American Zionist magazine. They tried to say no, this is not the map of Israel. We brought their attention to this document, which they published themselves. [passage omitted] They repeated this talk more than once. Thus when they talk about the map, or when they talk about greater Israel, Your Majesty, they do not talk about the West Bank, the Gaza Strip, the Golan and the border strip in southern Lebanon; rather they talk about this map minted on their currency.

What is more, a programmed operation of Judaization is now taking place. It is planned at all levels. The main cause of the massacre at the al-Aqsa Mosque and in the Holy Haram was the attempt by the so-called guardians of Solomon's Temple to lay down foundations in the Holy Haram, in preparation for the removal of the two mosques—the Dome of the Rock and the al-Aqsa, for the building of Solomon's temple. This is the map I showed you before, and I remind you of it. This is the map. Here it is, I remind you of it. It is the same map.

As I said before, it has been published previously. In it the Solomon Temple is clear. It was published in Israeli magazines. I was talking to my brother the Jordanian information minister, and I said that even in the sphere of information we are not carrying out our duty with regard to protecting these sacred shrines.

Your Majesty, we must not forget that the Islamic summit conference was originally held here on Moroccan soil after the fire they started in the al-Aqsa Mosque. [Koranic verse omitted]

To seize land, to seize sacred shrines. This does not only mean seizing Islamic shrines, but also Christian holy shrines. The last of them was Dayr Mar Yuhanna monastery. It is strange. One of Israel's challenges to Muslims and Christians is that Dayr Mar Yuhanna the Baptist belonged to the Russian Church. Your majesty. Those

who confiscated and occupied this monastery were the Soviet Jews who came from what used to be called the Soviet Union and is now called Russia. The challenge reached an extent whereby as soon as the Soviet Jews arrived from Russia, the first thing they did when they came to Jerusalem was to confiscate some of the property of the Russian Orthodox Church, and there are many of these in our country. This subject is still under debate between the supreme court and the lower court and the authorities. The immigrant Soviet Jews are still present in this monastery.

What has been happening inside the holy city? The Moroccan quarter had been seized and demolished. Your Majesty—as the two of us discussed earlier—to widen the so-called Wailing Wall, and this affected the tombs of Moroccan Muslim imams. They removed them. Not only this, but they have been trying to take over houses, shops, lanes, and streets, under the pretext of exploration. What they have done recently is to close the major gates of the mosque in order to conduct so-called exploration of what they called the remains of Solomon's Temple, which all historical evidence, your majesty, proves is not there at all. It is in another place far from this spot. This has been proved by historians.

More than this, Wiseman, the first president of the republic, the first president of the State of Israel, when asked to take Jerusalem to make it the capital, said: We do not want this (?complex) and underdeveloped city. We want to establish a capital which matches the European capitals in advancement, civilization, and science. Therefore, we do not want it. We have no connection with this city.

I am sorry to say that he used the expression: this dirty city. This is confirmed in the minutes of the proceedings which my brother al-Sharif [as heard] and I talked about in Amman. Not only this, but Judaization is being conducted in earnest. The creation of a Jewish quarter of the most grand buildings and streets, in which the top ruling families in Israel live, weakens the remaining Christian and Muslim residential quarters. I say the Christian quarters before the Muslim ones, because when I recently talked with His Holiness the Pope, I told him that after 1967 between 70,000 and 80,000 Christians used to live in the town. Of those, Your Majesty, only 5,700 remain. I told him, I want to ask: How could you Christians, how could the European Christian countries betray Christ's blood and allow the emigration of those Christians from these places? Do you want to transform these churches and these Christian holy sites into museums? But he did not believe what I told him. I told him, regrettably this is viewed as encouragement from the European and American countries. As for the Muslims in Jerusalem, all methods of subjugation, blackmail, and suppression are being used against them to force them to leave the city, including, Your Highness—and I have a virtuous brother from Jerusalem—God willing, he will meet Your Majesty to tell you about all these tragedies in detail—including a tax called the

armonah [property tax] which is against all legal international principles. Thirty-eight kinds of tax for shops, whether open or closed, to force the people to emigrate and gradually to deport them. Actually, of your Muslim and Christian kinsfolk no more than 3,100 are left.

Then they started to extend the city of Jerusalem, which they call the eternal capital of the State of Israel. [passage omitted] Repair of houses and buildings are banned today. Inspection teams come and say that these houses are unfit for living. All right, let us repair them. They say no; repairs are banned. We can only bypass all this and trick them if the buildings are Islamic or Christian waqfs [religious endowments]. Moreover, the boundary of the city of Jerusalem, which they call the eternal capital of the State of Israel, has reached 22 percent of the land of the West Bank. [passage omitted]

It is the fate of the Palestinian to be hungry, but I do not understand when I say that the Palestinians are hungry, that there is famine in Gaza, Your Majesty, even with the recognition of the UN Relief Works Agency. Had Brother Abu-al-Lutf [Faruq Qaddumi] not gone to China and Indonesia to bring some food to save our people from famine in Gaza, there would have been an explosion. [passage omitted]

Fine, let them die, but how about your sacred things? Your sacred things, O Muslims? Fine, we die of hunger, of murder. The number of dead in the intifadah, which is in the beginning of its fifth year, is about 2,000 martyrs, 98,000 wounded, 6,500 handicapped, and between 7,000 and 8,000 miscarriages. Why, Your Majesty? Because of the use of chemical weapons which they call teargas bombs. We brought three medical groups, a U.S. team, a Dutch team, and a Belgian one. They took samples to the U.S., Dutch, and Belgian laboratories to examine them, and they announced that these are chemical weapons banned under international law.

We are currently lodging a legal case on behalf of our people who were hurt, or their children or women, against these U.S. factories which export chemical arms to Israel for use against our children, our women, and our people, with this result. [passage omitted]

Israel is still persisting with its crimes despite the fact that we and our brother Lebanese and Syrians and Jordanians, together with a number of Arab countries, declared our acceptance of the policy of President George Bush, which he announced on 6 March 1991, and in which he said: Land for peace; and in which he said: Implementation of Resolutions 242 and 338. That means withdrawal from the Arab and Palestinian territories occupied in 1967, including Jerusalem, including Jerusalem, and the legitimate Palestinian rights of the Palestinian people in accordance with what has been decreed by international legitimacy.

As for our brother Lebanese, the resolution governing them is clear. It is No. 425, which states: Total and unconditional Israeli withdrawal from all the occupied territory.

Yet we went to Madrid and went to Washington on a first visit and we went to Washington on a second visit, Your Majesty. But no progress was made.

Here are my brothers, here the foreign minister of Lebanon, here is the foreign minister of Syria, and here is the information minister of Jordan. Let them tell us what we have achieved from the two sessions of talks. All the Israelis did was to keep silent; they offered nothing and they provided no answers. They did not put forward any programs and they could not approve of any program.

May I remind you, Your Majesty, that in the first round we, the Palestinian delegation, remained in the corridor for nine days, in the corridor. We and our brother Jordanians.

Even more. On the last occasion, we and the Syrian delegation waited but nothing happened, and all the Arab delegations had to withdraw because the Israelis had nothing to say. They tried to play the Palestinian-Jordanian position against the Syrian position. But, thanks be to God, my brother Jordanians, my brother Lebanese, and we stood united alongside the brothers in Syria, as they stood alongside us regarding the decision on deportations from the occupied territories.

At the time, while we were having peace talks in Madrid and Washington, what happened, Your Majesty? Provocations in the Golan Heights, provocations in southern Lebanon, provocations in Gaza and the West Bank, and provocations in Jerusalem.

We also ask what will we go and do at the multilateral talks. This is the question, Your Majesty. What shall we go and do at the multilateral talks at a time when they continue to refuse to recognize the PLO?

Regrettably, this is what is taking place regarding the conference. With your permission, however, Your Majesty, I will only give my brothers some figures regarding Jerusalem, and God be witness that I am passing the message. Listen, you wealthy people of the Muslims, and God be my witness, there is a need for repairs in Jerusalem to save these sacred places. Al-Aqsa Mosque is in need of repairs amounting to between 2 and 3 million [currency not specified], and my brothers in Jordan know about this figure.

The Dome of the Rock, which is about to collapse, is in need of between \$5 and 6 million to carry out quick preliminary repairs so that the mosque does not collapse. Just the Islamic archeological sites are in need of between 24 million and 27 million. These are lists which I will hand to Your Majesty later on. The immediate repairs of the homes which are about to collapse amount to between 5 and 5.5 million. This amount has to be paid quickly, because these homes are collapsing, and their inhabitants are being displaced from Jerusalem as a consequence, which means emptying Jerusalem of Muslims. [passage omitted]

I cannot bear all this. Some of these expenses are borne by our brothers in Jordan with whom we share the issue in connection with the religious and judicial courts. They pay one part and we pay the other. As for the other institutions, the educational, health, and social ones [sentence unfinished]. The lands at risk of confiscation are valued at \$65 million. [passage omitted]

I am before this gathering, Your Majesty, and in particular before you, before history. Will the Muslims keep silent about Jerusalem as it withers away in front of them, its holy sites, its landmarks, its inhabitants, together also with the inhabitants of Palestine? I encourage the believers to fight. "No soul is charged save to its capacity." [Koranic verse] In a prophetic hadith [tradition], may God's blessing and prayers be on him, he said: There is still a group of my community which cherishes religion, obvious to their enemy, does not care about whoever antagonized them, and are victorious in God's will. God's prophet was asked: Where are they? And who are they? He said: In Jerusalem and on the flanks of Jerusalem, and they are in a (battle station) until Judgment Day. Our fate is to be in the battle station, in jihad; and jihad is one of the doors of paradise, and we shall not abandon jihad until we meet God in clean attire, with a clean heart.

I say these words, Your Majesty, because the situation in Jerusalem is actually very serious. I implore Your Majesty, I implore you, by what you have of Arab influence, by what you have of Islamic influence, and by your contacts with supreme Christian sources, as you are leaving after a short period to represent our Arab nation in the Security Council. The issue of Jerusalem is entrusted to you, a trust from the Muslims, a trust from the Arabs, a trust from the Palestinians in you. I tell my brothers who represent the Islamic world, and the Arab Christians, I tell them that Jerusalem is in danger, in danger of absorption, Judaization, annexation, and may completely end up without one Islamic or Christian landmark in it.

I sincerely wish that this meeting is a working meeting, a meeting which satisfies God, religion, conscience, and feelings, so as to be able to tell those inhabitants of Jerusalem, to tell those Palestinians, that you are not alone in the battlefield. You have with you your Arab nation, your Islamic nation, and all the free and honest people in the world.

I do not want to add more than this except to say that despite all this darkness which I see before me, I believe in God's victory because God does not break his promise. The noble ayah [Koranic verse] says "and to enter the Temple [mosque], as they entered it the first time." We shall enter this mosque sooner or later, and belief is a whole indivisible entity "and to enter the Temple, as they entered it the first time, and to destroy utterly that which they ascended to. Perchance your Lord will have mercy upon you, but if you return, we shall return; and we have made Gehenna a prison for the unbelievers." "God hath purchased of the believers their

persons and their goods; for them in return is the garden of paradise; they fight in his cause, and slay and are slain; a promise binding on him in truth, through the law, the gospel, and the Koran; and who is more faithful to his covenant than God? Then rejoice in the bargains which ye have concluded: that is the achievement supreme." [Koranic verses] God the great has told the truth, and thank you for listening.

Committee Issues Recommendations

LD2301225192 Rabat Moroccan Kingdom Radio Network in Arabic 1938 GMT 23 Jan 92

[Recommendations of the Jerusalem Committee's 14th session read by unidentified speaker at the Royal Palace in Marrakech—live]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate; the final communique and recommendations of the 14th session of the Jerusalem Committee—Marrakech, the Kingdom of Morocco: The Jerusalem Committee held its 14th session under the chairmanship of His Majesty King Hassan II, king of the Kingdom of Morocco and chairman of the Jerusalem Committee, and with the participation of the struggler Yasir 'Arafat, head of the state of Palestine and chairman of the PLO Executive Committee, in the city of Marrakech, in the Kingdom of Morocco, on Thursday, 23 January 1992, to look into the situation in the city of Jerusalem and to study the serious situation resulting from Israel's continuous Judaizing of the holy city, violating the sanctities of the holy places, confiscating Islamic properties and real estate, and continuing excavation and digging around the blessed al-Aqsa Mosque.

The convening of this session has assumed great importance because it is the first session held after the end of the Gulf war to reassert the issue of Jerusalem and its Arab and Islamic identity which Israel is trying to annex, Judaize, and obliterate, and insist on its groundless claim which says that Jerusalem is the eternal capital of the Zionist entity even at a time when the world is witnessing a peace process aimed at settling the Arab-Israeli conflict. Israel's claim subjects the peace process to failure. Participating in this session were delegations of the committee's member states, and Dr. Hamid al-Gabid, secretary general of the Islamic Conference Organization. The session was opened by His Majesty King Hassan II, chairman of the Jerusalem Committee, with a detailed speech in which he welcomed the participating delegations and underlined the significance of convening the meeting to look into the development of the situation in holy Jerusalem and the occupied Arab and Palestinian territories in light of the latest development manifested by the start of the peace process, and its reflections on the region in general and on the holy city in particular. Struggler Yasir 'Arafat, head of the state of Palestine and chairman of the PLO Executive Committee, made an address. He thanked His Majesty King Hassan II for his initiative manifested in convening the Jerusalem Committee. He also presented a comprehensive review of the

situation in Jerusalem and the occupied territories, and the seriousness of the practices, measures, and crimes committed by the Israeli occupation authorities against the Palestinian people and the Islamic and Christian sanctities, and its attempts to Judaize the holy city and obliterate its cultural, historic, and religious features, its continuous confiscation of land and properties belonging to the Awqaf, and the building of settlements, a matter that seriously affects the peace process.

Committee members then discussed resisting the continued Zionist persecution against the unarmed sons of the Palestinian people manifested in the seizure of real estate and properties, and the escalation of the crimes of murder, deportation, and unlawful expulsion, and arrest without justification or reason, and also to work in an unprecedented deliberate manner for obliterating the original Arab-Islamic cultural features from the land of Jerusalem and Palestine by way of total Judaization; and is also manifested in the escalation of settlement building on Arab Palestinian land and the occupied Syrian Golan and in bringing millions of new settlers in the shortest possible time to replace the legal residents of the country proceeding from the attempt to implement the imposed fait accompli.

The delegation leaders discussed the Israeli authorities' insistence on keeping the issue of Jerusalem out of the peace talks, and reaffirmed that this is a premeditated device by which Israel aims at making good the process of annexing Jerusalem, thus violating international legitimacy and its resolutions on this issue. The delegation leaders meanwhile reaffirmed that Jerusalem is an Arab-Islamic city, that this matter can accept neither argument nor any dealings, and that the fate of the city is not subject to passing circumstances. God has willed that the al-Aqsa Mosque be linked with the holy mosque [in Mecca] by an eternal tie since the Prophet traveled from Mecca to Jerusalem and his flight to heaven. During the discussions, views were in agreement that the past few months witnessed a concentrated expanding attack in the sphere of settlement in Jerusalem and neighboring areas—in fact in all the occupied Palestinian territories and the occupied Syrian Golan—a matter which shows that there is a major plan whose implementation aims at tightening the settlement cordon around the city of Jerusalem and establish settlement groupings in the occupied territories so that 1 million Jews can be settled within the city. The settlement infiltration continued inside the walls of the Old City of Jerusalem by way of seizing properties, buildings, and Islamic and Christian religious premises.

It is no longer a secret that so far Israel has acquired more than 60 percent of the occupied Palestinian territories. The committee discussed the serious living situations being suffered by the sons of the Palestinian people under occupation, the necessity of enabling them to continue their brave intifadah, the steadfastness and struggle, and closing ranks to safeguard the gains for which many were sacrificed, a matter which dictates on brother Muslims and friends everywhere the duty of

supporting, backing, and protecting the unarmed people by every possible means until Jerusalem and the occupied Palestinian territory are liberated. The committee reviewed with interest the political changes at the international level and their reflections on the Middle East region, especially following the commencement of the peace talks between the parties of the Arab-Israeli conflict, and discussed the subject of putting the issue of Jerusalem on the agenda of the bilateral peace negotiations. It reaffirmed its support for the efforts being made to establish peace in the Middle East. It also stressed that the question of Jerusalem is one of the fundamental issues that should be dealt with. It expressed its view that peace in the Middle East cannot be realized except by Israeli withdrawal from all the occupied Palestinian territories, including Jerusalem and the occupied Syrian Golan and the other occupied Arab territories, and unless the Palestinian people are empowered to exercise their inalienable political and national rights. In light of all these deliberations, the Jerusalem Committee has adopted the following recommendations:

1. It reaffirms that the issue of Jerusalem and the liberation of the blessed al-Aqsa Mosque will continue to be the main preoccupation of all Muslims, and that the Islamic nation does not allow the compromise of any part, no matter how small it may be, of holy Jerusalem and the land of Palestine.
2. It reaffirms that Jerusalem is an indivisible part of the Palestinian territories occupied in 1967; everything that is applicable with regard to the occupied territories is applicable to it according to the Security Council and the UN General Assembly resolutions in this regard. It rejects any claim to keep Jerusalem out of the circle of peace negotiations. It reaffirms that the return of holy Jerusalem to Palestinian sovereignty is a prime condition along the road of realizing peace in the Middle East.
3. It calls on the states of the world to avoid dealing with the Israeli occupation authorities in a way that makes the latter consider that such dealing in any way or form is tantamount to a recognition of the fait accompli which these authorities imposed by declaring Jerusalem the capital of Israel. In this regard it recalls Security Council Resolutions 483, 476, and 478/1980 which stipulate that the Israeli law which regards Jerusalem as the unified capital of Israel is null and void and reaffirms that all legislative, administrative, and settlement measures and procedures ... [break in transmission].

Ministers Confer During Jerusalem Committee Talks

Iraqi Foreign Minister Meets 'Arafat

JN2101214062 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1856 GMT
23 Jan 92

[Text] Marrakech, 23 Jan (INA)—Foreign Minister Ahmad Husayn met with Palestinian president Yasser 'Arafat here today. They reviewed latest developments in the Palestine question and in the Arab and international arenas.

During the meeting, Ahmad Husayn stressed the Iraqi people's determination to stand fast in the face of the unjust economic blockade imposed on Iraq.

Foreign Minister Ahmad Husayn stressed to president 'Arafat that Arab Jerusalem will continue to be the capital of Palestine regardless of the claims of the Zionists and their supporters.

The foreign minister leads Iraq's delegation to the Jerusalem Committee meetings, due to begin in Marrakech tonight.

Receives Moroccan Counterpart

JN2301215092 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1750 GMT
23 Jan 92

[Text] Marrakech, 23 Jan (INA)—Iraqi Foreign Minister Ahmad Husayn met here today with Abdellatif Filali, Moroccan minister of state for foreign affairs and cooperation.

Discussions at the meeting dealt with bilateral relations and current Arab and international developments, in addition to the issues that will be discussed at the 14th session of the Jerusalem Committee, which is due to open here tonight.

Syria's al-Shar' Receives 'Arafat

JN2301164492 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1542 GMT
23 Jan 92

[Text] Marrakech—Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' met with PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat here today. Faruq Qaddumi, head of the PLO Political Department, and 'Ali Hasan, Syria's ambassador to Morocco, attended the meeting.

During the meeting, they assessed the peace process and the results of the bilateral talks in Washington.

They also exchanged views on the multilateral talks scheduled to be held in Moscow. They had identical views and agreed that the convening of the multilateral talks, after Israel has managed to abort the peace talks in Washington, will cause severe damage to Arab interests and the Palestinian people's rights.

Al-Shar' met with Lebanese Foreign Minister Faris Buwayz this morning in the presence of the Syrian ambassador to Morocco.

They assessed the bilateral talks in Washington as well as their negative impact on the multilateral talks in Moscow.

They also reviewed the topics which will be discussed by the summit meeting of the Security Council member states scheduled to be held at the end of this month.

Meets Saudi, Algerian Counterparts

JN2401070092 Damascus Syrian Arab Republic Radio Network in Arabic 0415 GMT 24 Jan 92

[Text] Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' met with Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal in Marrakech last night. 'Ali Hasan and 'Ali Majid al-Qabbani, the Syrian and Saudi ambassadors to Morocco, also attended the meeting. They discussed the Jerusalem Committee's agenda as well as the various topics to be discussed during the Arab foreign ministers meeting. Talks also touched on developments in the region.

Yesterday afternoon, Faruq al-Shar' met with Algerian Foreign Minister Lakhdar Brahimi. The Syrian and Algerian ambassadors to Morocco attended. Brahimi briefed al-Shar' on the situation in Algeria. They also discussed issues on the agenda of the Arab foreign ministers meeting.

Al-Shar' also received (Muhammad Kazim Khondari), director general for Middle Eastern and North African affairs at the Iranian Foreign Ministry. The Syrian ambassador and the Iranian charge d'affaires to Morocco attended. They discussed the Jerusalem Committee's agenda and developments in the region.

Syria, Iran Reportedly in Nuclear Weapons Pact

LD2301130792 Hamburg DPA in German 1142 GMT
23 Jan 92

[Text] Passau (DPA)—According to a report in the 'PASSAUER NEUE PRESSE' (newspaper), Syria and Iran have now signed a comprehensive agreement on strategic cooperation, which includes the sphere of nuclear weapons production. As 'PASSAUER NEUE PRESSE' reports in its Friday edition, citing "reliable sources in Paris and Lebanon", the agreement was worked out in the strictest secrecy by two working parties from the Iranian and Syrian Armed Forces. The treaty was ready for signing on 12 October 1991, but both countries postponed the signing for the time being, bearing in mind the Middle East peace conference, the newspaper said.

A Syrian military delegation headed by a general is currently conducting technical preparations for the implementation of the treaty during a visit to Tehran lasting several months, it added. Syrian efforts to acquire a nuclear power station from the People's Republic of China should also be viewed in this context, the report says.

Palestinian Affairs

Delegation Says No Israeli Autonomy Plan Received

TA2301120792 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew
1100 GMT 23 Jan 92

[Text] Members of the Palestinian delegation to the Washington talks said today that they have received no official Israeli working paper concerning the autonomy

plan. As for the multilateral talks in Moscow, Hanan 'Ashrawi said that the leadership outside the territories will decide about this soon. On the phone from the al-Hakawati Theater, here is our correspondent in the territories, Udi Segal:

The news conference here at the al-Hakawati Theater in East Jerusalem is still in progress. A few minutes ago, delegate Ghassan al-Khatib said that during the Washington talks, the Palestinians received no official Israeli document concerning the autonomy plan, as has been claimed in Israel. At the same time, he noted that the Israelis expressed their stand on several issues pertaining to self-government but, as stated earlier, no official document was relayed.

The Palestinian delegation called a news conference today after returning last night from Amman, where they stayed after the Washington talks. Delegation spokesperson Hanan 'Ashrawi said that as far as the Moscow multilateral talks are concerned, the Palestinian leadership abroad—meaning the PLO—will make the decision regarding Palestinian participation within the next few weeks [as heard], before the start of the talks.

[Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew at 1005 GMT on 23 January carries a similar report, including the following recorded passage of Hanan 'Ashrawi's remarks in English concerning Palestinian participation in the Moscow talks: "The multilaterals are a different ball game, a different issue, and they are being discussed by the PLO, by our leadership, and they are being evaluated on the basis of three issues: the nature of Palesti. an participation; the progress in Arab coordination; and the progress in the bilateral."]

Referring to the issue of the loan guarantees, Hanan 'Ashrawi said: This is none of our business. We will not interfere with U.S. policies. Nevertheless, it will be the business of the Palestinians if the Americans fail to prevent the Israelis from using the money from the guarantees for settlement in the territories. Commenting on the Washington talks, 'Ashrawi said that the main achievement lies in the fact that Israelis and Palestinians sat face-to-face in a bilateral meeting for the first time and that the Israelis recognized them as a national entity.

'Arafat Interviewed on Peace Talks, Arab Ties

JN2301113392 Amman AKHBAR AL-USBU'
in Arabic 23 Jan 92 p 3

[Interview with PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat by Ahmad 'Alawi; place and date not given]

[Excerpts] ['Alawi] Last week, there was a strong and obvious Palestinian presence on the Jordanian scene, and in Cairo and Damascus. People wondered what it was all about. What is the secret behind this flurry of Palestinian diplomatic activity in Amman, Cairo, Damascus, and Baghdad? What are the aims and results of Palestinian meetings in those capitals?

['Arafat] We would like to point out, frankly and clearly, that the aim of these Palestinian moves is to achieve a united Arab position against the challenges facing our Arab nation. We cannot imagine the Arab nation going to Madrid to make peace with the enemy—the intention of which was made clear in the invitations to the conference and in President Bush's initiative—while there is neither peace nor genuine solidarity among the brothers themselves to confront the Israeli enemy.

Prior to the Madrid conference, therefore, we launched an intensive Palestinian campaign which, we're proud to say, resulted in the meeting of the foreign ministers of the countries surrounding Israel: Egypt, Syria, Jordan, Palestine, and Lebanon. The meeting was attended by a representative of the Gulf Cooperation Council and another for the Arab Maghreb Union. In our opinion, and as viewed by international observers, the meeting represented, at its minimum level, clear Arab coordination to wage the difficult and vicious political battle against Israel in Madrid, Washington, or anywhere else, whether in the bilateral talks or the upcoming multilateral talks. The aim is to shape a common approach and to reach a united position. [passage omitted]

['Alawi] Brother Abu-Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] is known as the man of the difficult mission. Your recent visit to Baghdad, despite the hard circumstances known by all, raises questions about the nature of this persistent Palestinian endeavor to bring the Arab nation to a minimum level of Arab solidarity. Does the visit have anything to do with relations between Syria and Iraq?

['Arafat] I hope so. However, in the meetings we arranged for the Arab foreign ministers, and later in the meetings of the Islamic foreign ministers, the nonaligned foreign ministers, and the Islamic conference in Dakar, we had an obligation to meet and an objective to realize—namely, healing Arab rifts. No one can deny that the Gulf crisis has left deep wounds in the Arab body. But sincere Arabs should rise above their own interests and work to protect pan-Arab security, with a view toward safeguarding Arab wealth and preserving the future of the Arab nation in this new world order, so that this new order will not be established at our expense, and so that we can be part of this order, contributing to its march, and not paying a heavy price like that we paid at the end of World War I—namely, the Sykes-Picot accord and the Balfour Declaration—and at the end of World War II.

Now, at the end of a third world war, whether cold or hot, we must know that the Madrid conference is not like Camp David.

The conferences in Madrid, Washington, and Moscow are conferences for the post-World War III [as published] era, in which the dual polarity has ended and we have, for the first time in contemporary history, a single pole. We have to be careful how we deal with these conferences, and this can only be achieved by way of a united Arab position, that takes into account the supreme

interests of the Arab nation, and that rises above the wounds for the sake of our children and the generations to come. Here I would like to point out that when I went to Baghdad, I was in pain, really. There is real hunger on account of the blockade imposed on the children there. There is a great shortage of medicine and vaccines, and this will create problems in the future.

[Alawi] Let us move on to the issue of Jordanian-Palestinian coordination. We notice that there is a high degree of coordination between the two parties, especially concerning the peace talks. How does your excellency assess that coordination?

[Arafat] This coordination was very evident during the second round of negotiations in Washington, in what we called the corridor talks. Our brothers in the Jordanian delegation could have entered the negotiations room, but they refused to do so. They stayed with us in the corridor to underscore the Jordanian-Palestinian relationship, in whose strength and depth we take pride. [passage omitted]

[Alawi] There are ceaseless attempts to distort the Jordanian identity and certain people are embarrassed to talk about this and blame the Jordanians. What is your reaction to this?

[Arafat] I am pleased that you have asked me this question because, on this point, I differ with some of my brothers in the Palestinian leadership. We in Fatah Movement also differ with others because we insist on noninterference in Jordan's internal affairs. Despite all the pressures and temptations, we refused to interfere in the Jordanian elections and we refuse to cast any shadow in the form of a party in Jordan. We want the whole of Jordanian society to remain friends when it comes to the Palestine question, and we want all these people to be supporters and partners in the making of the Palestinian future. The Palestine National Council's [PNC] resolution says: A Palestinian state leading to a Palestinian-Jordanian confederation on the basis of the free choice of the two fraternal peoples. This means that the PNC resolution is not sufficient; the Jordanian Parliament must also have a say, if it so wishes.

[Alawi] But, this will be a sensitive issue when the Jordanians call for highlighting their identity?

[Arafat] Who said this? Our Jordanian brothers have a right to insist on highlighting their identity; they have a right to struggle with all available means to safeguard their Jordanian identity. Hence, we say that the relationship would be a confederation, not a federation, between the two peoples in accordance with the voluntary and free choice of both parties. On the contrary, the strength and firmness of the Jordanian identity is a form of protection for the Palestinian identity.

The objective of the Israeli enemy is the alternative homeland. We reject the so-called alternative homeland and consider it an act of treason. We were offered an alternative homeland in southern Lebanon, but we

rejected the offer; we were offered an alternative homeland in Sinai, but we rejected the offer; we were offered an alternative homeland in al-Ramadi in Iraq, but we rejected that offer; and we were offered an alternative homeland in al-Jazirah in Syria, but we rejected that offer as well.

We reject any alternative homeland; we want a Palestinian homeland in Palestine.

The strength of the Jordanian identity will abort all Zionist and world imperialist conspiracies in this regard. Therefore, safeguarding a solid Jordanian identity will provide us with an independent Palestinian identity in the future. [passage omitted]

[Alawi] If Israel agrees on receiving international forces to protect the Palestinians in the occupied Arab territory, will you agree to a halt of the Palestinian intifadah?

[Arafat] The intifadah will not stop before the end of occupation.

[Alawi] They speak about autonomy, does this mean Palestinian autonomy or autonomy for the Israeli settlements?

[Arafat] When we say autonomy, we mean a transitional period, during which, elections will be conducted under international supervision and the sovereignty will be for those who are elected; they will be an integral part of the PNC.

We propose elections, but under which law? We agree that the elections will be under Palestinian law, in accordance with which municipal elections and other kinds of elections are held.

The other point is international protection, international supervision, and sovereignty over land and natural resources. Here, the Americans say that the word sovereignty weighs heavy on us; it means complete power under the edicts of international law. There is nothing that is called complete power. This is what we want in the transitional period, which should not exceed two years.

Here, we should say that the peace talks are based on a clear basis—Resolutions 242 and 338—that is, Israeli withdrawal from all occupied Arab and Palestinian territory and the recognition of the Palestinian people's political rights, in accordance with international legitimacy. No one can impose their own conditions, as the situation could not be any worse. We stand as firm as a mountain. [passage omitted]

[Alawi] We learned that you dispatched many delegations to the Arabian Gulf to normalize relations and bypass the wounds?

[Arafat] I did not dispatch delegations, however, I extend my hand to them. Recently, I sent messages thanking all those who voted in our favor at the Security Council, and who abstained from supporting the cancellation of the resolution equating Zionism with racism.

My hand is extended to all Arab brothers, and I am ready to meet with them, affirming that the differences are not personal, but on constants and holy principles.

[Alawi] How serious do you think the decision is to close the [Palestinian] organizations' offices in Libya?

[Arafat] The PLO and its embassy are still there and nothing has happened to them. All Palestinians in Libya should be affiliated with the PLO, as is the case now in Yemen, Saudi Arabia, and Algeria. They are all part of the PLO offices. [passage omitted]

[Alawi] Do you expect the Palestinian-U.S. dialogue to resume in the future?

[Arafat] I call for the resumption of the dialogue and I consider its suspension a violation of impartiality. The United States continue to show double standards at our expense. How can it call on China to recognize Israel in a multilateral conference and then not hold a dialogue with us? The United States has forced the world, by throwing its weight behind this, to make the former Soviet Union, and now Russia, recognize Israel while at the same time refusing to reopen a dialogue with the Palestinians. This is part of their double standards.

[Alawi] Do you have any confidence in U.S. credibility and do you feel optimistic that there will be peace?

[Arafat] I am confident about victory. I am certain, like I am certain that you are here sitting next to me, that, sooner or later, a young Palestinian child will raise the flag over the capital of the state of Palestine—Holy Jerusalem—and on its minarets, churches, and walls. They see it indeed as a far-off event, but we see it quite near. [Koranic verse] He who is tired of the struggle should rest and send his children in his place to continue the march.

As for confidence in the Americans, I am a pragmatic and practical man. I deal with all the facts, be they sweet or bitter. [passage omitted]

[Alawi] Following the opening of the PLO offices in Syria, is there now a process to achieve reconciliation with the National Salvation Front and end the past disputes?

[Arafat] I am pleased that the good relationship between us and our brothers in Syria has improved on more than one level, whether that which concerns the difficult political battle we are fighting together to achieve a just peace in the region, or that which concerns the attainment of the legitimate Arab and Palestinian rights in accordance with international legitimacy. I thank President al-Asad for the good spirit we felt during our meetings in Damascus.

The PLO offices in Syria were never closed; only Fatah offices were.

[Alawi] Since the death of leaders Abu-Iyad [Salah Khalaf] and Abu-al-Hawl [Hayil 'Abd-al-Hamid], there have been vacancies in [Fatah's] Central Committee, what about them?

[Arafat] The problems have been resolved and they are now over. It is better not to discuss such issues in public.

Al-Hut: Self-Rule Must Guarantee Sovereignty

NC2301145592 Beirut Radio Lebanon in Arabic
1400 GMT 23 Jan 92

[Text] PLO Executive Committee member Shafiq al-Hut has affirmed that the Palestinian leadership will not accept a self-rule which does not lead to a Palestinian state and does not ensure sovereignty over the land and people. Al-Hut called for the confrontation states to coordinate, because Israel is trying to divide the Arabs and deal with each party separately.

Solution To Refugee Issue To Be Sought at Talks

NC2301121192 Paris AFP in English 1126 GMT
23 Jan 92

[By Fouad Naim]

[Text] Nicosia, Jan 23 (AFP)—Arab delegations attending multilateral talks on the Middle East next week in Moscow will demand a solution to the fate of over 2 million Palestinian refugees who have been displaced since the creation of Israel in 1948.

But Israel has already announced that the issue was "too complex" to be on the agenda of the talks which are slated to open January 28 and 29, although it could be among future discussions.

Israel, which said the Moscow forum will focus on water, disarmament, environment and economic development, has also stressed that the talks on refugees should encompass the fate of "Jews who fled Arab countries".

The United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) defines the "Palestinian refugee" as "any person who, on the eve of the 1948 conflict, had lived in Palestine for at least two years and who later lost his home and means of existence".

A UN study published in 1952 said that after the creation of the Israeli state in 1948, 1 million Palestinians were forced into exile.

In UNRWA terms Palestinian refugees are also those who were displaced from their homes in the West Bank and Gaza Strip following Israel's occupation of the territories in 1967.

In its latest report on the issue in 1991 UNRWA put the number of Palestinian refugees at 2,519,487, with the majority of them living in the occupied territories and others scattered across Jordan, Syria and Lebanon.

But the study stressed that these figures represented only Palestinians whose names were on UNRWA lists while other estimates speak of some 4 million Palestinians who were displaced as a result of Arab-Israeli wars.

Israel meanwhile has said that 586,000 Jews were forced to leave their homes in Arab countries, the Middle East region and north Africa and emigrate to Israel after the state was founded in 1948. The Arabs have been demanding the return of the Palestinian refugees to their homes and compensation for those who do not wish to go back in line with UN General Assembly Resolution 194 of 1948.

Former Israeli Prime Minister Menachem Begin and other Israeli leaders have repeatedly said that their country was willing to compensate Palestinian refugees financially on the basis of a reciprocal agreement that would ensure that Jewish refugees also receive reparations.

But Israel categorically refuses the return of Palestinian refugees to their homes, arguing that their numbers are equal to Jews who left the Arab countries and that therefore there has been a balanced "exchange of populations."

Concurring sources have suggested that the United States, during the course of multilateral talks, could propose that regional states absorb a certain number of Palestinians based on a quota system.

Both Palestinians and their host countries have so far opposed such a solution.

But this month, Jordan's King Husayn—whose kingdom is home to 960,212 Palestinians according to UNRWA—called on Arab leaders to offer "dual nationality" to Palestinians who live in their countries.

This practice is being followed in Jordan but not in Syria or Lebanon, where a total of 600,508 Palestinian refugees live, according to the UNRWA figures.

Qaddumi Comments on Peace Talks, Self-Rule

*JN2301163192 Amman AKHBAR AL-USBU'
in Arabic 23 Jan 92 p 2*

[Interview with Faruq Qaddumi, head of the PLO Political Department, by Ahmad 'Alawi; date and place not given]

[Excerpts] ['Alawi] Do you believe Israel wants peace, and how does it view peace?

[Qaddumi] It is clear that Israel does not want peace because it believes that peace will mean the beginning of the end for the Zionist project. Peace will force it to stop settlements, to withdraw from the Arab territories, and to adjust itself and its behavior to the new world of today. This means that in the course of time, Israel will have to abandon its hostile nature. Therefore, it is maneuvering, and it will resort to different forms of provocation by stepping up its terrorist practices aimed at compelling the Palestinian and Arab negotiators to

abandon peaceful negotiations. When this occurs, Israel will accuse the Arabs of spoiling and hampering the peace process. [passage omitted]

['Alawi] Are there any signs that the U.S.-Palestinian dialogue will resume?

[Qaddumi] The United States wants to achieve a peaceful political settlement of the chronic Arab-Israeli conflict, not because it loves peace but because it wants to protect its interests in the region. In the aftermath of the Gulf war, it controlled the oil wells and energy resources, which concerns the major industrial states like Japan, Germany, and others. It knows that the key to the solutions lies in the Palestine question, and that without a dialogue with the PLO or the Palestinian people's representatives, the United States will not be able to deal with the Palestine question. Therefore, it began a dialogue with our brothers—the national figures in Jerusalem—directly and through its Secretary of State James Baker. Everytime they met with Baker, the Palestinian brothers in the occupied territories reminded him that the PLO authorized them to talk to him. This is what is called a dialogue with the Palestinians and not with the Palestinian leadership.

For well-known reasons, including Israel's objections, we can affirm that the United States does not want to hold direct contacts in the early stages of the Palestinian-Israeli negotiations in order to prevent Israel from using the dialogue as an excuse to stop negotiations and foil the peace process. We believe that the United States uses this cover, while it knows that the Palestinian delegation is committed to the PLO and the Palestine National Council's resolutions and is in constant touch with the Palestinian leadership. We want the United States to end its past bias toward Israel. U.S. support for resolutions condemning Israel's deportation of the Palestinian brothers is a positive position in which we see an eagerness to make the peace process succeed.

On many occasions and from the UN platform, we asked the United States to resume dialogue with us. This dialogue was suspended two years ago, and we will persist on the resumption of the dialogue. [passage omitted]

['Alawi] How do you assess Palestinian-Jordanian coordination on the negotiations?

[Qaddumi] The Palestinian-Jordanian coordination is taking place at the highest levels and with full understanding. We are continuing contacts in order to promote the peace negotiations and lay down future plans which will serve our joint objectives.

The continuing contacts between us have bolstered Palestinian-Jordanian cohesion, enhanced the masses' confidence in this joint action, and tangibly bolstered brotherly ties. This has reflected positively on our relations with Arab states and supported our continuous efforts to bolster joint Arab action and to create a spirit of love and understanding among the frontline powers. This has also

created a sense of optimism about reaching results that would serve our pan-Arab interests. [passage omitted]

[Alawi] What if the negotiations collapse and fall into a coma?

[Qaddumi] The United Nations, the General Assembly, and the Security Council are the basic and legitimate terms of reference for all negotiations. The UN resolutions constitute a guide and basis for these negotiations. If the negotiations are stalled, the UN Security Council must be referred to. This is because the United States affirms that it will put no pressure on the negotiating parties to bring about a political settlement.

Therefore, we have one option: Asking the UN Security Council to put pressure on Israel to force it to comply with the international will and to respect international legitimacy. The UN Security Council is required to implement its many resolutions.

[Alawi] It is said that self-rule in the U.S. plan is less than the self-rule provided for in the Camp David accords?

[Qaddumi] Some like to parrot what Israel propagates to make the negotiations seem unacceptable and unreasonable. Self-rule means a rule for minorities. We are a Palestinian people who have the right to self-determination as stipulated by the international charters and the UN Charter. What is important in these negotiations is the implementation of international legitimacy, which provides through the UN Security Council resolution for Israel's withdrawal from the Palestinian territories and terminating the occupation. Most obviously, this means that Israel must give up the occupied Arab territories. As for what we are going to do with these territories afterward, this an Arab affair.

Accepting a meaningless self-rule means an acceptance of the status quo. This is unacceptable. If Israel fears that the PLO will control the territories that it will leave, we do not mind if these territories are placed under UN supervision for a period of time so that our credibility and desire for a just peace can be ensured.

It is absolutely unreasonable for us to accept the Israeli understanding of self-rule because this would mean an approval of an Israeli custodianship over us for a period of time. We have rejected Arab custodianship. How can we accept Israeli custodianship? But if conditions are required to maintain security, peace, and respect for agreements, then the UN Security Council is authorized to lay down all the required security arrangements.

[Alawi] Do you accept a halt to the intifadah in return for a halt to settlement building?

[Qaddumi] The intifadah erupted because of the Israeli occupation. We reject a halt to the intifadah in return for a halt to settlement building. The intifadah can only be halted when the occupation is removed.

Our people have risen in a popular revolution to terminate the occupation. If this objective is achieved, our people will

calm down to live peacefully and to live on their territory without any foreign intervention. [passage omitted]

Editorial Urges Postponement of Multilateral Talks

TA2301195492 Jerusalem AL-QUDS in Arabic
21 Jan 92 p 7

[Editorial: "The Multilateral Talks!"]

[Text] The multilateral talks expected to be held in Moscow at the end of this month to discuss general regional issues constitute the third phase of the peace process after the Madrid conference and the beginning of bilateral negotiations. The invitations from the cosponsors of the conference came amid a clear contradiction in Arab assessments of the results of the third round of bilateral negotiations. Syria and Lebanon have made their acceptance of the "multilaterals" contingent on the achievement of tangible progress in the "bilaterals," which in their view are in a state of stagnation. On the other hand, Jordan and the Palestinians believe that the bilateral talks in Washington achieved some positive results, although no fundamental progress was achieved, and that the multilateral talks will boost and compliment the bilateral talks because issues that have not yet been discussed, such as the question of Jerusalem, will be discussed there.

The important thing on the Palestinian level is that the invitation to the Moscow talks has once again confronted the Palestinians with a critical choice. On one hand, the invitation does not solve the problem of Palestinian representation in these talks. This does not encourage the Palestinians to agree to participate unless the issue of forming the Palestinian delegation is resolved in conformity with the Palestinian national and political perception. On the other hand, the Palestinian side does not want to arouse American anger with its refusal, or appear as an impediment to the talks. At the same time, the Palestinian side sees coordination with Syria, which has refused to participate, as a basic negotiating strategy.

Perhaps the best option before the Palestinians and the other Arab parties now is to have the date of the multilateral talks in Moscow postponed until after the fourth round of the bilateral negotiations expected to be held in Washington in the Middle of February. The delay will provide a better opportunity to all the parties to assess the bilateral negotiations after the fourth round and test the seriousness of the Israeli position on substantive issues, especially in view of the current Israeli Government crisis.

If the aim of the multilateral talks is to find real solutions to regional problems, we cannot imagine how this can be done in regard to the Arab-Israeli conflict without the achievement of tangible progress in the bilateral negotiations, especially in respect to the basic problems that constitute the core of the conflict, unless the aim from the multilateral talks is to stage a ceremonial event that will be confined to the discussion of symbolic achievements.

PNSF Urges Arabs To Boycott Moscow Talks*JN2301192492 (Clandestine) Al-Quds Palestinian Arab Radio in Arabic 1730 GMT 23 Jan 92*

[Text] An official spokesman for the Palestinian National Salvation Front [PNSF] has made the following statement:

The Palestinian masses inside and outside Palestine, including the Palestinian refugee camps everywhere, reject any Palestinian participation in the multilateral conference which is scheduled to be held in Moscow on Tuesday, 28 January 1992. All the Palestinian resistance groups have been called for a meeting to adopt practical popular measures to voice the indignation of the Palestinian people over attempts, through this conference, to normalize Arab relations with the Zionist enemy, which is still denying our people their unity, and their national and pan-Arab rights, and which declares its determination to continue its occupation of Palestinian and Arab territories, and its policy of deportation, expulsion, and colonization.

On this occasion, the PNSF appeals to the Arab states not to participate in the multilateral conference because this participation means settling the refugees and liquidating the Palestinian people's legitimate rights.

[Signed] The PNSF.

Commentary Views U.S. Role of 'Observer' at Talks*LD2201101892 Algiers Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1702 GMT 20 Jan 92*

[Station Commentary]

[Text] Brothers, The third round of bilateral negotiations between the Israeli delegations on the one hand, and the Syrian, Lebanese, Jordanian, Palestinian delegations, separately, on the other hand, has ended. And as was the case in the first Washington round, the United States—the sponsor of the conference—continued to play the role of an observer, without any intervention worth mentioning. Its role was confined to reiterating its commitment to the peace process and its readiness to participate if both parties wanted it to do so.

It seems that internal Israeli differences and what goes on inside the government coalition has virtually dictated the conduct of the Israeli delegations vis-a-vis the Arab sides. None of the Israeli delegations has even proposed an agenda or a framework for what it saw as appropriate for conducting the negotiating process. Consequently, what took place was not negotiations at all. The Palestinian side tried to negotiate by introducing five written proposals to the Israeli delegation, including the agenda, and a comprehensive working plan for the transitional period, i.e., a structural framework. But the Israeli delegation did not give any written answers, which affirms the reflection of differences in Israel on the talks.

The Arab sides depend in their proposals on international legitimacy and Security Council resolutions, particularly, Resolution 242, i.e., return of land for peace, while the Israeli delegates stressed unequivocally their categorical rejection of everything that relates to the land for peace principle. Here, it should become clear to the (?sponsor) that the fact of arrival at the negotiating table does not even mean the commencement of negotiations. The gap which separates the Arab positions and the Israeli position cannot be bridged by merely talking about it at the negotiating table.

The U.S. Administration relied on the mechanics of procedural matters to bring the parties to the conflict to the negotiating table, and chose to neglect the core issues until after reaching the negotiating table. And now having sat face-to-face, the concerned parties found themselves without delegations to enter into matters of substance. Each side relied on what it saw fit in the letter of invitation or the letter of U.S. assurances to explain its view point.

In view of the internal economic problems which the U.S. Administration is facing in the year of the presidential elections, its policies toward the [peace] process rests on two factors: first, not to impose solutions and, second, not abandon the peace process. Between the two factors, the United States endeavors to secure the continuation of the talks without intervening or explaining its position on matters of substance.

The question which poses itself now is: is there an American plan or American working program for the negotiating process? It seems that the U.S. Administration is not working according to a plan or a program. Rather, it has decided that matters should run their course among the delegations, in the knowledge that the talks may continue uninterrupted because none of the parties wishes to be blamed for stopping the talks.

The matters for the Arab Syrian, Lebanese, and Jordanian delegations are not governed by a temporal framework and there are no stages. The negotiations with the Palestinian side are quite the opposite: there is a time limit of one year ending one year after the commencement of the bilateral talks, i.e., 1 November 1992. There is also a transitional phase tied to the final phase. The Arab sides ask the U.S. Administration to define its understanding of UN Security Council Resolution 242, and Resolution 425 relating to Lebanon, while the U.S. Administration asks the Arab delegations to adopt a hypothetical negotiating approach such as: If the Arab parties agreed to end the state of war and establish diplomatic relations [with Israel], would Israel accept the principle of withdrawal from the land occupied in 1967?

In simple words, the U.S. Administration casts the negotiations in hypotheses. That is because it wishes not to involve itself or intervene in the talks process. For if it wished to intervene and say that its understanding of Resolution 242 means Israeli withdrawal from the occupied territories, that would mean that there is no need

for negotiating through hypotheses. This approach comes within the framework of what the U.S. Administration calls non-imposition of solutions.

But if the mere affirmation by the United States of its understanding of Resolution 242 means the imposition of solutions, what is there left for the United States to do? It seems that those who are convinced that the U.S. Administration will exert pressure on Israel will reconsider their calculations, if they have not already started to do so.

The Palestinian side abided by the letter of invitation and proposed the framework of the transitional period. The U.S. Administration is aware that beginning the application of this phase requires the cessation of settlement activities, because the continuation of settlement means the creation of facts on the ground that are liable to be practically decisive for the final phase of negotiations. Is the U.S. Administration going to suggest to the Palestinian side to negotiate through hypotheses, given that the settlement, according to the American point of view constitutes an obstacle in the way of peace and that the peace process will not develop if the settlement continued?

At any rate, the loan guarantees for Israel and the manner in which the U.S. Administration deals with it will settle many issues. With regard to the Palestinian-Israeli track, the continuation of the talks means the cessation of settlement, and the continuation of settlement means the end of peace hopes. There is no need to hypothesize about this axiomatic matter.

Editorial Sees 'Appeasement' Policy Toward Israel
TA2101204192 Jerusalem AL-FAJR in English
20 Jan 92 p 4

[Editorial: "Appeasement Not Right"]

[Text] As much as we wish to see the peace talks take on a serious drive towards a comprehensive peaceful settlement for this ugly conflict, sometimes we simply feel that the talks are nothing more than a ridiculous farce. Just listening to official Israeli statements on peace and watching official Israeli actions on the ground is evidence enough that what we are up against is a tragedy-comedy with Israel as the playwright, leading actor, producer, and director. The rest of the parties seem to be nothing more than a chorus line.

Israel clearly decides the course of the talks: when they start, when they end, what will be discussed, how much will be discussed, etc., etc. The Arab parties seem to have no choice but to follow Israeli whims and fantasies. When the superpowers and rich industrial countries must worry constantly about how Israel will react to a certain statement or form of pressure, how can anyone expect the Arabs to have any real power to influence a change in the status quo?

Israel, for example, told the former Soviet Union that it will not accept it in the peace conference unless it

restores diplomatic relations with it, and the Soviet Union did exactly that. Now Israel is telling other countries interested in participating in the multilateral talks in Moscow at the end of this month that they cannot be involved in them unless they normalize relations with Israel. Most likely these states will concede to Israel's wishes. Before that, Israel barred the United Nations, the legitimate international organization, from the peace process and got what it wanted. No one seemed to question Israel on these conditions, but rather went along with them.

All this gives us the impression that Israel is using the entire peace process not for what it is intended for, but rather to improve its international relations and standing and making international gains. The impression we have is that Israel has no interest or desire to give the Palestinians their rights - or anything for that matter.

Added to this farce is the growing feeling that the U.S. is in on Israel's games and is a willing partner, not to mention an active contributor towards Israel attaining its personal unilateral goals. Under the pretext of appeasing Israel in order to con it into making concessions towards peace, the U.S. has convinced the world to adopt an appeasement policy towards Israel.

Even though we are committed to the peace process and we came out in support of it to the maximum extent, sometimes we feel the position of the opposition groups makes sense. Opponents of the peace process say they are not opposed to peace per se, but to Israel's dictation of the terms of the peace process and to Israel's con-game with the world. After watching Israel's attitude towards this whole peace process, we can understand and sympathize with their point of view.

PFLP's Habash Hospitalized; 'Power Struggle' On
JN2401112692 Amman SHIHAN in Arabic
25-31 Jan 92 p 2

[Text] SHIHAN has learned that Dr. George Habash, secretary general of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP), is being treated at the King Husayn Medical Center. Sources close to the PFLP say that Habash, who has been suffering from health problems for some time, may leave Amman for a foreign country to continue treatment if the condition of his health allows.

Reports say that the state of Habash's health may prompt the PFLP to appoint Abu-'Ali Mustafa (Mustafa al-Zibri) as secretary general and to create the honorary post of "chairman" for Habash. Some sources do not conceal the fact that these expected changes in the front's leadership have escalated the power struggle between Abu-Nidal Musallami and Salah Salah over the post of deputy secretary general, currently occupied by Abu-'Ali Mustafa.

Arab Countries Urged To Refuse Deportees

JN2301111492 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English
23 Jan 92 pp 1, 5

["Special to the JORDAN TIMES" by Sana' 'Atiyah]

[Text] Amman—The Palestinian Deportees Committee, representing 3,000 expelled by Israel since 1967, Wednesday urged Arab countries neighbouring Israel and the occupied territories to refuse taking in any deportee and called on the International Red Cross (ICRC) to assume its responsibilities for their return home.

The chairman of the committee lawyer Ibrahim Bakr, who himself was deported from Jerusalem in 1967, told a press conference that blocking Palestinian deportees' entry into the Arab countries and handing them over to the ICRC was the only method to confront the Israeli policy of deportation.

"It is the right of these Arab governments (where the deportations may take place), practising their right of sovereignty, to refuse accepting the deportees on their soil regardless of any pain the deportees may face temporarily," Mr. Bakr said in the press conference at the Palestine National Council in Amman.

He added that the deportees should remain in the area of their deportation until the ICRC and the United Nations representatives in the respective Arab capital took responsibility for their well-being and return home. He called for the placing of security forces at border points where deportations take place to halt the deportees entry into any Arab country.

Such measure taken by the Arab countries, Mr. Bakr maintained, alleviate (Palestinian) fears that the Palestinians would permanently settle in the Arab world, emptying the occupied territories of its rightful owners and leaving room for the Israelis to build more Jewish settlements.

The committee's call, which will be delivered to the concerned Arab embassies in Amman and the Jordanian government, came after the latest Israeli decision on Jan. 2 to deport 12 Palestinians from the West Bank and Gaza Strip accused of anti-Israeli activities.

On Tuesday, an Israeli army panel turned down appeals of seven Palestinians ordered expelled from the Gaza Strip, and the hearing of appeals of five others from the West Bank is expected to take place in a few days.

The Israeli deportation decision delayed the third round of bilateral Mideast peace talks in Washington when the Arab parties refused to attend the negotiations until the U.N. Security Council adopted a resolution, 726, "strongly condemning" the deportation decision and calling for the immediate return of all Palestinians deported since 1967.

The Palestinian and Jordanian negotiators to the peace talks had told the Israeli delegation in the latest round of

negotiations that the Jewish state had to stop all measures contradicting the Geneva conventions, including deportations, if the peace process were to succeed.

More than 3,000 Palestinians have been forced out of their homes since 1967. The figure does not include women married to Palestinians in the occupied territories who have been forced to leave their husbands and homes for not carrying an identity card issued by the occupying authority immediately after the 1967 war.

In a press statement released to journalists, the Palestinian Deportees Committee said the Arab governments' denial of entry to the deportees was "necessary to stand up to the deportation policy and to develop it into an international live question that puts the U.N. face to face with its responsibilities."

Deported Bi'r Zayt University President Hanna Nasir told the press conference that the Arab countries' refusal to accept the deportees was the "only method to stop the deportation activity from its roots."

"We have the power in our hands to ask the Arab countries to refuse their entry, to immediately hand them over to the ICRC so that they return to the occupied territories," said Dr. Nasir. "It may be exhausting to the people in the beginning—coming and going for a number of days—but in the end, the person returns home."

Mr. Bakr said that when Israel "throws" the deported Palestinian in a certain area, demonstrators and protestors should go to these areas and extend moral support for the deportee(s) until the ICRC takes over.

He noted that when the Jordanian refused to accept deportees over the King Husayn and Prince Muhammad Bridges a number of years back, the Israelis stopped deporting Palestinians through these points. However, the Israeli authorities started "to dump" deportees in the Jordanian desert of Wadi al-'Arabah and in south Lebanon.

"If we succeeded in refusing to take in deportees at the bridges, then we should also close the other points of deportations, including Lebanon," Mr. Bakr stressed, adding that Syria and Egypt could also be used by the Israelis as deportation points.

He recalled that Jordan at the time felt uneasy about denying deportees entry through the bridges, but said that stopping the deportations was "more important than any (government's) embarrassment or pain the deportee may face."

"The important thing is to frustrate the Israeli policy of deportation," Mr. Bakr asserted.

He noted that the Israeli government was using the British mandate's emergency laws that were in effect before the establishment of the Jewish state in 1948 to deport Palestinians it claims to be a security threat to Israel, but that the British had cancelled these laws before they left Palestine.

Mr. Bakr also said that the British used to expel the Palestinian leaders to countries under British control at the time and had taken responsibility for their well-being and livelihood. "But Israel doesn't do that; it (treats) these neighbouring Arab countries as if (they) were under its own authority and control." The Palestinian Deportees Committee's statement said that Israel had resorted to deportations "with the purpose of depriving the Palestinians under occupation of their political, social, educational, trade union and religious leaders."

The committee warned of new forms of deportations being considered by the Israeli authorities, including temporary expulsions for a number of years. Currently, the Israeli authorities force young people under the age of 26, who leave the occupied territories for medical treatment, education or work to sign an undertaking not to return to their homes before three to five years, stay abroad. [sentence as published]

The committee also called on the U.N. secretary-general and permanent members of the Security Council to "uphold their responsibilities vis-a-vis the implementation of Security Council Resolution 726 to secure the safe and immediate return of all the deportees."

The deportees also demanded that if Israel did not comply with the resolution, to "take the appropriate sanctions against Israel to make it comply with international legitimacy."

Walid Mustafa, also a deportee, said that the Arab countries should take advantage of Security Council Resolution 726 to prevent Israel from deportations.

"If Israel did not comply with the resolution," L. Mustafa said, "then the Arab countries have every right to call for sanctions against Israel to stop this activity."

PLO Opposition to Deletion of 'Jihad' Affirmed

*LD2101120192 Algiers Voice of Palestine in Arabic
1702 GMT 17 Jan 92*

[Station Commentary]

[Excerpts] Brothers, the idea of the Islamic Conference Organization [ICO] started following the fire at al-Aqsa Mosque in 1968 in response to the late King Faysal's invitation. Thus, the Islamic conferences emanated from Jerusalem, and were convened for Jerusalem. Thus, in principle, their activities and decisions are supposed to primarily and before anything revolve round Jerusalem, and for Jerusalem. The latest session was called the session of Holy Jerusalem, Harmony and Unity. This session was attended by only six of the Arab kings and presidents. By that no chance was given to achieve harmony and reconciliation among the Arabs. Arab-Arab relations remained, as they used to be, full of contradictions, sensitivities, and the conflicts after the Gulf war. Therefore, political observers see that Arab

leaders have missed a genuine reconciliation opportunity which could have been achieved on the occasion of convening this conference.

The Palestinian delegation attended this conference with a high-level delegation headed by Abu-'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat], general commander and president of the state of Palestine, who delivered the speech of Palestine in this conference. He said: I trust in your great concern and your utmost interest in liberating Holy Jerusalem, the first of the two kiblas [direction to which Muslims turn in prayers] and the third of the two holy places, the place from which Prophet Muhammad, peace be upon him, ascended to heaven, and the birthplace of Jesus Christ, may God bless him. Jerusalem is neither a stone, nor a recollection. It is a land, a people, a spirit, a history, and a heavenly message. It is peace, love, and coexistence. It is a collective human memory. Saving it from the continuous crime, which Israel is committing against the holy city, and against its spiritual, civilized and human identity, is a mission, rather an obligation on every Muslim. [Passage omitted]

[Arafat continued] Four years of the people's struggle, the epic resistance, and the sincere jihad [holy war] which our fighting Palestine people is leading. Four years of immortal heroism, magnificent steadfastness, great sacrifices, and unlimited giving, enabled our people and our fighters, males, females, children, and elderly, to consolidate the achievements which the revolution of our Palestinian people have accomplished under the leadership of the PLO, and confirming our people on the political, worldly, and geographical map in this world. [Passage omitted]

The conference affirmed that the issue of Jerusalem is the Muslims' first issue, and it is the essence of the Arab-Israeli conflict. The conference supported the efforts made to bring a just and comprehensive peace in the Middle East region on the basis of the international resolutions, in particular, UN Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338, and the principle of 'land for peace,' which would guarantee Israel's complete withdrawal from all the Palestinian and Arab lands occupied in 1967, including Holy Jerusalem and the Syrian Golan, and enable the Palestinian people to practice its inalienable national rights, including the right to return, self-determination, and the establishment of the independent state on its land with Holy Jerusalem for a capital. [Passage omitted noting the Conference affirmed its support for the Palestinian struggle; it renewed its commitment to liberate the holy city, and provide the necessary protection to the Palestinian people and the holy places; it also considered the building of settlements is a stumbling block on the path of peace, and condemned the settling of Jewish immigrants in the occupied territories].

The PLO welcomed the ICO decisions concerning the Palestinian issue, but it expressed its regret over the cancellation of the word 'jihad' from the final communiqué. The deletion of this sacred word had a bad effect

on the results of the Conference's proceedings. The Palestinian delegation had raised this issue in the political committee, and it was agreed to transfer the phrase specific to the Mecca declaration in 1981, and incorporate it in the Dakkar communique. However, the Palestinian delegation was surprised at the deletion of the word 'jihad' from every sentence in which it had occurred, which prompted brother Abu-'Ammar to intervene twice to protest this measure comes within the framework of the international orientation toward a peaceful solution without leaving any scope resorting to non-peaceful means in case the peaceful efforts do not succeed, including the jihad and armed struggle.

It is well known that the call for the 'jihad' to liberate Jerusalem was among the constants which were included in all ICO conferences that used to convene on the level of ministers or on the level of [words indistinct]. There is no doubt that [words indistinct]. This became clear in the decisions which the conference took against Iraq, on the one hand, and the failure to reconcile the warring

Arab sides, as well as the complete orientation toward supporting the American initiative for a peaceful settlement in the region, overlooking the fact that this initiative does not contain any of the legitimate and national rights for the Palestinian people, nor the need to withdraw from the Arab and Palestinian occupied lands, self-determination for the Palestinian people, and its right to return to its homeland and establish its independent state on its land Palestine.

The official orientation of the Arab and Islamic countries has started to move along the same path, which is the American peace course. The masses of our people and [words indistinct] in particular, must not hesitate for a moment to leave the door of jihad and armed struggle wide open in front of the present and succeeding generations until our national goals are achieved. What the Palestinian revolution has achieved over many years [words indistinct], and tens of thousands of victims, paper and ink decision will not erase.

Algeria

FIS Statement Denounces Hachani Arrest

LD2401094992 Algiers Radio Algiers Network
in Arabic 0900 GMT 24 Jan 92

[Text] The FIS [Islamic Salvation Front] has issued statement No. 9 in which it strongly denounced the arrest of Cheikh Abdelkader Hachani, pointing out that the arrest took place as he was carrying out his political duties in broad daylight and under the aegis of legitimacy.

The statement, signed by Rabah Kebir, the official in charge of the Political and Foreign Relations Committee, also denounced the decree issued by the governor of the capital banning prayers in the areas adjacent to mosques, as was the case in the past.

The statement also denounced the arrest of a group of journalists from EL-KHABAR and EL-BALAGH and termed this a violation of the freedom of expression.

Said, Kebir Tipped as Successors to Hachani

LD2301203992 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic
of Iran in English 1930 GMT 23 Jan 92

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] The Islamic Salvation Front [FIS], in its initial reaction to the arrest of Mr. Hachani, described the act as a provocative measure taken by the Algerian leaders.

Reports from Algeria state that the FIS national assembly met to show its reaction to the arrest of the interim leader of the front and to appoint a new FIS spokesman. The assembly organizes FIS affairs.

Informed sources in Algiers say one of the two leaders of the Islamists, Mohamed Said or Rabah Kebir, may be chosen as Hachani's replacement. [passage omitted]

Hachani Criticizes Government's Actions

NC2201221692 London MBC Television in Arabic
2100 GMT 22 Jan 92

[Interview "before his arrest" with 'Abdelkader Hachani, provisional leader of the Islamic Salvation Front, by unidentified MBC correspondent; date and place not given—recorded]

[Text] [Hachani] The polling boxes containing the people's choice resulted in the election of political forces to the exclusion of others and also rejected other political forces. In view of the serious situation in the country, I believe the various basic political forces should have met to consult on the situation and continue the dialogue to find ways that would block opportunities for the enemies of Islam and Algeria.

As for the problems that arose over the (?results), I believe that the ruling clique is fabricating such matters to prevent any force from standing against it. As far as the Islamic Salvation Front is concerned, there is no

problem at any level, whether at the level of the leadership or its popular base, thanks be to God.

As for this clique's behavior of using excuses—including bringing in someone who played a part in the Algerian revolution [Higher State Council Chairman Boudiaf] about which no two people can differ, but who has not been involved in managing the country's affairs since independence, and including its definition of an economic policy, whatever it may be—if the Algerian people do not accept such behavior and are not satisfied with it, it is bound to fail.

[Correspondent] Mr. Abdelkader, if you were consulted about participating in the national consultative council, what would your position be?

[Hachani] What they call the consultative council is first the result of an illegal authority, and consequently, it is illegal. On the other hand, I think that the council is an attempt by the ruling clique to distribute as much as possible the responsibility for shedding the blood of the Algerian people. We cannot, under any circumstances, contribute to promoting a clique which is dominating the Algerian people. We also cannot, under any circumstances, bear or participate in the responsibility for shedding the Algerian people's blood.

[Correspondent] Mr. Abdelkader, how do you see the immediate future of Algeria?

[Hachani] The situation in Algeria is open to all possibilities, particularly if the ruling clique insists on imposing its custodianship on the Algerian people.

[Correspondent] Will it reach the point of civil war?

[Hachani] The Islamic Salvation Front will, God willing, seek and exert its utmost efforts to spare the Algerian people a new tragedy. But, at the same time, it insists on shouldering the trust given to it by the Algerian people in the 26 December elections, God willing.

Press Notes Hachani Arrest, EC Credit Freeze

LD2301121192 Algiers APS in English 1021 GMT
23 Jan 92

[Text] Algiers, 23/01/92 (APS)—The arrest of Abdelkader Hachani, the economic reboosting and EEC financial credits to Algeria are the main themes tackled today Thursday by commentaries of three dailies. The arrest of Hachani, president of FIS (Islamic Salvation Party) Provisional Executive Bureau announces, according to LE MATIN daily "an obvious hardening of the power in the forthcoming days. A hardening fist showed vis-a-vis FIS from which the power is determined to take mosques' control by deciding yesterday to apply in all rigour the law on mosques and a hardening also towards those who are regarded by authorities as contravening [word indistinct] was the case of EL-KHABAR daily's journalists accused to have published "the call to rebellion" of Hachani. The editorialist concludes that journalists should from now on care about

what they write, noting "with a code of information that strangely looks like a [words indistinct] the liberty of the press runs a great risk of being affected."

ALGER-REPUBLICAIN daily devoted its editorial to the necessity of the economic rebooting wondering "from where we begin." It also recalls that the president of H.C.E (Higher State Council) held his first Council of Ministers "where multiple aspects of the economic crisis were examined." Moreover, the commentator considers "the socio-economic axis is absolutely decisive," asserting "it is within the forthcoming months and years that the future of Algeria will be decided." In the same [words indistinct] notes "it is urgent to engage radical reforms" adding "hence, any economic, cultural or social policy to whatever is its perfection doomed to failure if the basis of economy is not well [word indistinct]." Further the daily stresses "any attempt to set the machine going again, is mortgaged if we do not clear the pits of mines. For democracy, civil peace and stability are at this [word indistinct]."

EL-WATAN writes "the recommendation made by the European Parliament to EEC Commission to postpone the implementation of the 4th financial protocol with Algeria is indeed nothing but a precaution taken by EEC towards the current situation in Algeria." Algeria already benefited from the first part of a loan amounted at 250 million dollars of the overall amount (450 millions) granted last December, and Algeria envisages to receive the second part within the six coming days." EL-WATAN noted "this momentous freezing would concern aids granted to within the scope of this loan." However, the power in office will have "to give guarantees of economic reforms and guarantee the irreversible aspect of the democratic process" he concludes.

Two Journalists Linked to FIS Arrested

NC2301114792 Paris AFP in English 1128 GMT
23 Jan 92

[Text] Algeria, Jan 23 (AFP)—Two Algerian journalists whose weekly paper EL-BALAGH is close to the fundamentalist Islamic Salvation Front (FIS) were arrested at their homes overnight, FIS sources said here Thursday.

A member of the Front's official organ EL-MOUNQUID (The Saviour) said EL-BALAGH editor-in chief Mohamed Dani Dani and his senior editor Abdelaziz Layoun had been picked up.

Earlier on Wednesday authorities detained FIS leader Abdelkader Hachani for allegedly calling on soldiers to desert rather than support the ruling high council which last week cancelled elections that the FIS looked certain to win.

Authorities also arrested eight journalists from the daily paper EL-BALAGH after it published an FIS advertisement, signed by Hachani, which appeared to call for disobedience by the Army.

Government Releases 5 Journalists

LD2301154992 Algiers Radio Algiers Network
in Arabic 1500 GMT 23 Jan 92

[Text] Journalists and workers of the daily EL-KHABAR who today met in a general assembly at the newspaper's premises at the Press House issued a statement that the newspaper is neither responsible for nor concerned with the contents of the announcement in question; that the newspaper is independent of all parties and organizations of any sort; and that it adheres to the laws of the Republic.

Since its founding the newspaper has refused to take any stand save the one which is dictated by the journalistic profession. Therefore, it would like to express its absolute rejection of any political attempts to take up its case except within the framework of professional solidarity.

The newspaper, while welcoming the release of five of its journalists at noon today, Thursday, awaits the speedy release of its remaining journalists.

National Consultative Council To Be Established

LD2301090792 Algiers Radio Algiers Network
in Arabic 0800 GMT 23 Jan 92

[Text] In this morning's issue the EL-SALAM newspaper quotes informed sources as saying that a committee made up of five or six prominent figures has been set up and that the committee is now examining the creation of a national consultative council [majlis al-shura al-watani]. It is expected that the national consultative council will include competent qualified people of various political persuasions from all sectors and of all ages.

It is worth mentioning again that the national consultative council, the membership of which is expected to be announced in the next few days, will be a consultative body on vital social, economic, and cultural matters. It will also serve as a link between the grass-roots and the Higher State Council.

Boudiaf at Defense Ministry; Nezzar Gives Speech

LD2201222192 Algiers ENTV Television Network
in Arabic 1900 GMT 22 Jan 92

[Excerpts] Mohamed Boudiaf, chairman of the Higher State Council, accompanied by Major General Khaled Nezzar, member of the Higher State Council and national defense minister, visited the National Defense Ministry, where he was welcomed by Maj. Gen. Abdelmalek Gouneizaya, chief of staff of the National People's Army. [passage omitted]

Mohamed Boudiaf saluted the Army officers and told them of his pride at being among them. He emphasized the effective role of the National People's Army in establishing security and restoring the people's feelings of assurance and in preserving national unity—this gigantic task which is part of the Army's historical responsibility and which derives from its respect for constitutional legitimacy.

Khaled Nezzar, member of the Higher State Council and national defense minister, then gave the following speech:

[Begin Nezzar recording] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate; it is a great honor for the National People's Army to meet with one of the most prominent and well-known faces in the history of the Algerian national movement, one who did a great deal to help this country in its struggle against the tyrannical French colonialists. [passage omitted]

Algeria is today at a crossroads, and it is being buffeted by many dangers. This means that it is passing through a most dangerous phase of its history, for the crisis is multifaceted, is derived from many sources, and has political, economic, cultural, and social aspects. In addition, it is taking place in an international [word indistinct] which has no mercy toward the weak, and it is basically one in which we have to struggle against flagrant interference.

In these circumstances, Algeria's memory of its past tells us that you are the national figure capable of uniting the nation by your efforts to save the country and unite our ranks. The National People's Army, the descendant of the national liberation army, today pledges to you and your companions in the Higher State Council that it will place its hand in yours and march along the path taken in the not too distant past by the *moujahedin* [veterans of the liberation war], motivated by one single aim: to serve Algeria and to work to save it from the deteriorating situation which is affecting it today.

Noble brother, brothers, our National People's Army, which derives its principles from the November [word indistinct], has never been and never will be an army of coups or conspiracies or an army that serves individuals. It is a national people's army which has its roots deep among the people, which shares their aspirations, understands them, and which will continuously seek to translate the people's hopes into reality.

In this regard, the intervention of the National People's Army in these difficult circumstances falls within the framework of constitutional legitimacy, and this was done in accordance with the laws of the Republic. Brothers, the National People's Army wishes only to see hope shine anew and to see struggling Algeria regain its good health, strength, and impregnability in order to remain a formidable fortress against its enemies.

To realize all this, there is no doubt that first and foremost we should work for the strict application of the law, and to ensure that state institutions regain their credibility, and so that the slogan *The Right Man in the Right Place* becomes a living reality and a tangible fact in all state establishments.

Peace and God's blessings and mercy be upon you all! [end recording]

Brahimi Views Iranian Ties, State Council's Role
PM2301121692 London AL-HAYAH in Arabic
20 Jan 92 p 5

[Interview with Foreign Minister Lakhdar Brahimi by Randah Taqiy-al-Din in Algiers; date not given]

[Excerpts] [Taqiy-al-Din] Algerian newspapers indicate that Algeria will announce the severance of its relations with Iran because of the Iranian authorities' statements against the new regime in Algeria. Is this likely?

[Brahimi] No, it is untrue. Algeria may have erred against some world states, and it may have lapsed in its stand toward the world as a whole—but not toward Iran. I do not believe that the Islamic Republic of Iran can complain about Algeria's stands toward it. This is in addition to the fact that it shouldered the burden of Iranian interests in the United States. At one point our embassy in the United States did more work for Iran than it did for Algeria. This ministry, our ministry, contacted the Iranian authorities immediately after they started interfering in our internal affairs. Staff officials were told: We are staff, so we will stay whatever regime or government may come tomorrow in Algeria. We will tell them about the ethics of the government with which we are dealing. Do you want us to tell the future Algerian government that Iran is ungrateful? Why are you criticizing a government that has done you no harm? We understand that you will be pleased if the next government is more friendly toward you. But the new ones have not neglected you at all. So tomorrow's friends will question your loyalty.

After President Chadli Bendjedid's resignation Iran's stands and statements reached a point acceptable to no one. So the Iranians were contacted again and told that their attitude was unprincipled. So if no clear and open official reply withdrawing all that was said is received from them, we will announce the withdrawal of our ambassador (in Tehran) and tell the Iranian ambassador (in Algiers) to talk to his officials, to explain the matter to them, and to stay in Iran until a rational formula between the two countries is reached. We do not sever relations. [passage omitted]

[Taqiy-al-Din] Is the new regime formed in Algeria after President Chadli's resignation designed to confront the fundamentalist tendency represented by the Islamic Salvation Front [FIS]?

[Brahimi] I imagine that President Chadli resigned because he realized, having weighed the situation, that there would be a threat to the country if the process continued uninterrupted.

He could not himself stage a coup to prevent the elections, which President Chadli and others believed would lead to a definite and very serious split in Algerian society—a split that would threaten the country's unity and future. So his resignation was the beginning of the attempt to prevent such a development and to alter the

democratic course in order to safeguard constitutional and legal practices, if possible.

You asked whether that was done to confront the FIS. No. It was done in a bid to prevent developments which the country unanimously considered dangerous. This attempt started with the president's resignation and the measures that were adopted. [passage omitted]

[Taqiy-al-Din] How will government be exercised?

[Brahimi] The Higher State Council has a chairman and it collectively exercises the president's powers in full. The prime role will certainly lie with the council's chairman. It is the nearest thing to the president's role. I imagine that work between the Foreign Ministry and the presidency—because external affairs are the president's responsibility—will be basically between the foreign minister and brother Mohamed Boudiaf. His colleagues will certainly know what is happening, and they can discuss these issues. But the important thing is that the committee exercises the president's powers in full. So Boudiaf, on the committee's behalf, will preside over the Council of Ministers and sign all presidential decrees. There is also the Consultative Council. [passage omitted]

[Taqiy-al-Din] Everyone expects the Army to start persecuting FIS groups. What truth is there in this, and is there a danger of a bloody confrontation?

[Brahimi] After the president's resignation and the council's first statement, and after Ghazali's first contact with the various quarters, he realized that the situation could become tense. So in accordance with the powers granted to him, he called on the Army to prepare to help maintain security, if necessary. The Army moved in and prepared. The Army has a presence, but it is not exercising or running the security process, for it has not yet received orders to act. So it has not taken any measures against anyone.

[Taqiy-al-Din] Do you rule out bloody incidents and confrontations?

[Brahimi] What is certain is that the Army is eager not only not to have recourse to repression, but also not to do anything that could be misunderstood and lead to any misadventure. But on the other hand, the Army and the authorities are determined to maintain security. A statement issued by the Higher State Council pointed to the priority of maintaining the security of the state and the citizens. So no harm will occur if no one harms the country's security. [passage omitted]

FLN's Mehri Discusses Party's Future

PM2301120492 Paris LE FIGARO in French
21 Jan 92 p 4

[Interview with Abdelhamid Mehri, National Liberation Front, FLN, secretary general, by P. de Saint-Exupery in Algiers; date not given]

[Text] [Saint-Exupery] There is talk of the possibility of banning the National Liberation Front [FLN]. What is your reaction?

[Mehri] Algerian society is in a state of shock. I do not want to make that worse. We want to dissociate ourselves from demagogic statements and we want to combat the methods which some politicians have used for three years.

Since last June the government has been waging a campaign against us. Everywhere people were saying that there were two forces of evil—the Islamic Salvation Front [FIS] and the FLN—and that they should be fought as strongly as possible. This analysis led to many errors of judgment and to disastrous results in the elections. The government officials expected the FIS to win 30 percent of the seats and the other parties to win 70 percent. When the results were announced, the government was seized with panic. There is now talk of withdrawing the FLN's authorization. Society can be governed by decree. That is one way of proceeding, but I do not think it is as effective as people think.

[Saint-Exupery] But the FLN has been the only party for almost 30 years, by decree.

[Mehri] That is true. But that decision corresponded to the political situation of the day. The whole of Algeria supported the FLN, and the people did not see that as a restriction. Today we have just tried a complex experiment in multiparty politics. A return to the past would be very serious. Is the most urgent problem really to eliminate the FLN by decree? I say it is a mistake. Some people are annoyed to see the FLN still established in Algerian society. The FLN may be overtaken by the FIS, but it cannot be ignored. Compare the FLN's score with that of the democrats!

To be able to set aside the FLN, it would really be necessary to prove that there are left-wing forces in society with the same popular roots; but beware—if the FLN disappears one day, it will not be to the benefit of the democratic forces but rather to a more hard-line FLN, or even the FIS.

[Saint-Exupery] Do you consider Mohamed Boudiaf an enemy?

[Mehri] No, I cannot say that he is the FLN's enemy. He talks of the FLN in terms of his split with the party in 1962. At the time he regarded the FLN as finished. However, it is still not finished. The FLN's principles have now been taken up by other generations. Those who are calling for the FLN to become a museum piece are the party's founding fathers. However, a father can give life to a child, but he does not have the right to kill it.

[Saint-Exupery] So do you regard the FLN's disappearance as inconceivable?

[Mehri] I do not know. Perhaps I am under an illusion. A political map has emerged from the elections. We must read it. And then, why frustrate the FLN members? The

FLN and the FIS are real forces. If they were just fictional parties, the argument would obviously hold water. But they are sociopolitical phenomena and they must be taken into account.

[Saint-Exupery] However, Algeria now seems to be indifferent.

[Mehri] It is precisely this indifference which is sustaining our fears. We have the impression that an attempt is being made to entirely bypass normal political life and to run society by committees. Until now it has been like a mill wheel threshing the air. The machine has been going 'round without impinging on the real social situation in the country. The more the citizens watch what is happening, the more dissociated from political life they become. If the leaders ban the parties through authoritarian measures, it will be a serious mistake, because they will not be able to govern society without normal political reference points. The problems are closely linked. It is impossible to tackle economics without politics. Any recovery plan, however coherent, is unlikely to be implemented. Furthermore, reducing the FIS phenomenon to its economic dimension, which does exist, is to misdiagnose the problem. Of course the unrest among young people can be moderated by creating jobs. But that will not be enough.

[Saint-Exupery] We sometimes seem to be witnessing a repetition of the 1962 events.

[Mehri] Yes, that is true. In 1962 the Army brought in Ben Bella. In 1992 it is bringing in Boudiaf. In many respects the structures have been very slow to change. Thirty years is a long time but also a very short time. You cannot make progress in one stroke. Does this mean that stagnation can be justified? The experiment must be continued; society has changed. Look, when Boudiaf was arrested in 1963, nobody protested. People thought it was natural that an oppositionist should be imprisoned. That would no longer be possible now.

Ammar Resigns From FLN Central Committee

*LD2301174192 Algiers Radio Algiers Network
in Arabic 1600 GMT 23 Jan 92*

[Text] AL-MASA reported today that Mohamed Ali Ammar, an official of the Association of Algerians in Europe before 1988 and information minister in the government of Kasdi Merbah, sent a message to Abdelhamid Mehri in which he included his resignation from the National Liberation Front (FLN) Central Committee.

Ali Ammar attributed his resignation to the rifts and clashes that are hitting the FLN leadership and grass-roots. In concluding his message, he stated that this decision did not mean his withdrawal from the militancy battle.

RCD Statement Supports State Council

*LD2101202892 Algiers Radio Algiers Network
in French 1800 GMT 21 Jan 92*

[Text] In a communique issued this evening the executive bureau of the Rally for Culture and Democracy [RCD] stated that for several days now Algerians have been relieved to see the specter of civil war recede, even if the acts of violence seen recently in the capital and its surrounding areas remind us that the adversaries of democracy are not laying down their arms.

The RCD also believes that our country, I quote, has just completed a stage in its history, and the turning toward democracy and modern structures requires those in charge of managing the country's affairs to shield the republican order from any attempt to harm it, and to start a process aimed at putting the country's political life back together with a view to guaranteeing stability, civil peace, and the observance by all of the rules of the democratic game.

The Higher State Committee, the communique adds, has the difficult task of fulfilling these preconditions. The choices made by the committee seem to reflect a concern which consolidates the statements made by its president [as heard] upon his arrival in Algiers.

Finally, the RCD takes this opportunity to hail the return to his country of the last Algerian political exile, Mohamed Boudiaf, end quote.

Egypt

Musa Affirms Country's Attendance at Peace Talks

*TA2001065392 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew
0600 GMT 20 Jan 92*

[Text] Egyptian Foreign Minister 'Amr Musa told Labor Knesset member [MK] Yosi Beilin that Egypt would come to the multilateral talks in Moscow even if Syria and the Palestinians failed to attend. Egypt would clearly not agree, however, to hold any fundamental discussion without the Syrians present, he added.

Our correspondent Yo'el Nir adds that the Egyptian foreign minister told MK Beilin that if no progress were achieved in the negotiations within six months after the Madrid conference, Egypt would propose a reevaluation of the entire process. Musa asserted that if the talks were to fail the situation would not revert back to the previous state but rather that anarchy would spread throughout all the Middle East.

Al-Baz Explains Policy on Talks

*NC2001104592 Cairo Arab Republic of Egypt Radio
Network in Arabic 0500 GMT 20 Jan 92*

[Text] Dr. Usamah al-Baz, Egyptian Foreign Ministry first under secretary and director of the president's office for political affairs, affirmed in a news conference in

Muscat last night the need to continue Arab solidarity and coordination to confront the challenges of peace, which are no less important than those of war. He expressed his hope that this coordination will soon become deeper and more extensive.

Dr. al-Baz said Egypt will attend the multilateral peace talks in Moscow on 28 and 29 January. He said that Egypt, Syria, Jordan, and the PLO are coordinating on this. Egypt will attend the multilateral peace talks to guarantee that they begin, for the sake of international interests, and to ensure participation at the level of foreign ministers, which will preserve the momentum of the peace march and deprive Israel of the opportunity to accuse the Arabs of not wanting peace.

Responding to a question on Syria and Lebanon's boycott of the multilateral talks, Dr. al-Baz said that each side has the right to take whatever stand conforms with its objectives and interests. He said the Syrian stand has a certain logic behind it that should not be underestimated, namely that no progress can be achieved on multilateral issues if there is no sign of progress on bilateral relations, particularly with regard to Israel's commitment to withdraw from the occupied Arab territories.

Dr. al-Baz added that it is not feasible for the Arabs to proceed with serious discussions on regional issues such as disarmament, water, energy, economic cooperation, and protecting the environment unless they have some sort of idea of Israel's readiness to implement its basic commitment.

He said the Palestinian people have proven that they are an essential party. The Palestine question has also gained great support in the United States and the West. It is now an international issue.

Al-Baz Discusses Opening Embassies in CIS

NC2301142892 Cairo Arab Republic of Egypt Radio Network in Arabic 1230 GMT 23 Jan 92

[Text] Dr. Usamah al-Baz, Foreign Ministry first under secretary and director of the president's office for political affairs, has announced that it has not yet been decided what form Egyptian diplomatic representation in the Commonwealth of Independent States [CIS] will take.

He explained that reports on the issue are inaccurate and added that Egypt has not yet decided to open embassies in some CIS capitals. The Egyptian approach is to limit representation to the Egyptian Embassy in Moscow, the Russian Federation's capital, where Egyptian representatives accredited to the CIS republics will be stationed. Each representative will deal with one CIS republic and will handle Egyptian interests there either from Moscow or by going to the capital concerned.

Relations Sought With Former Republics

NC2401100992 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0613 GMT 24 Jan 92

[Text] Cairo, 24 Jan (MENA)—The talks which Egypt's delegation led by Dr. Kamal al-Janzuri, deputy prime minister and minister of planning, held with Commonwealth countries' presidents and senior officials have yielded important and positive results for promoting and strengthening economic, trade, political, and cultural ties.

The delegation managed to close important deals in the Russian Federation, Azerbaijan, Armenia, Uzbekistan, and Ukraine. Dr. al-Janzuri conveyed messages from President Mubarak to the various republics' presidents inviting them to visit Egypt. They agreed to set dates for the visits later.

In a report from Tashkent published today, AL-AHRAM says that the most important points agreed upon in a series of meetings and talks held between the Egyptian delegation and the republics' senior officials were:

1. That contracts signed between Egypt and the Soviet Union, largely inherited by the Russian Federation, should be respected. In talks with the Russians, led by the deputy prime minister for financial and economic affairs, it was agreed to set out a new basis for greater cooperation with the Russian Federation Government on trade exchange and increasing Egyptian exports and its imports of Russian raw material, equipment, and machinery.

It was also agreed to continue imports from already contracted electrical plants. Approximately 75 percent of their equipment was imported before financial problems halted the process. An agreement will be signed on 26 January once the outstanding issues have been settled.

The Russians agreed to set up an Egyptian-Russian Federation joint bank. The electricity minister has forwarded new orders for the import of a diesel electrical plant, which will be paid for in Egyptian pounds and take the form of goods exported to Russia. Alternative solutions were also reached on the 1989 loan agreement worth 120 million accounting pounds sterling to finance the 'Uyun Musa plant in the Sinai. The Egyptian and Russian sides agreed to hold negotiations on 26 January concerning the equipment to develop the High Dam and transformer stations in Aswan, Naj' Hammadi, Samalut, and Cairo.

2. Azerbaijani President Ayaz Mutalibov emphasized how much he wants to cooperate with Egypt. He praised President Husni Mubarak's stand and his efforts for peace and justice. He also expressed a desire to visit Egypt, which is expected to take place in February.

The Egyptian delegation and businessmen from the Egyptian and Azerbaijani sides discussed joint projects and a draft protocol outlining this cooperation. The Azerbaijani side agreed to establish diplomatic relations with Egypt at the ambassadorial level. It was also agreed

to set up a joint Egyptian-Azerbaijani bank and to consolidate cultural, information, and religious ties.

3. In Armenia, President Levon Ter-Petrosyan said that his country wants to establish special relations with Egypt, and he praised its flexible stands and reliance on peace to solve international and regional problems.

The Armenian president welcomed the idea of visiting Egypt and said he was grateful to Egypt for helping Armenia after the earthquake. He said that Egypt's economic experiment benefits his country in the transition to a market economy. The Armenian prime minister explained to the Egyptian businessmen his country's measures on the subject. A joint committee was formed to study cooperation on electricity, energy, in metallurgical industries, and banking.

4. In Tashkent, President Islam Karimov said that his country is proud that Egypt is one of the first to recognize the Uzbekistan Republic. He praised President Mubarak as being a struggler for justice and peace, and he said he hoped that Egypt would support Uzbekistan's efforts to join the UN [United Nations].

Commentary Urges Expanded Economic Ties

NC2101201592 Cairo Arab Republic of Egypt Radio Network in Arabic 1240 GMT 19 Jan 92

[Zayn al-Ja'fari commentary: "Reformulation of Trade Relations With the Commonwealth States and Its Meaning"]

[Text] Egypt was one of the first states to act quickly to prevent the international economic changes from harming its economy, especially the changes in East Europe, which has been moving toward a market economy; the European economic merger which has reached a decisive phase with the emergence of an economically united Europe this year, and the increasing competition among the U.S., European, and Japanese economic blocs. What has happened in the former Soviet Union and its division into independent states has prompted Egypt to hasten with measures to maintain its Russian market in view of its great importance to Egyptian exports.

Egypt also was one of the first states to realize that the European economic merger inevitably will affect the economies of all the states that have important economic and trade relations with East and West Europe.

In view of the economic reform program that Egypt now is implementing and for which it has mobilized colossal capabilities, Egypt cannot lose the Russian market because it is extremely important to Egyptian exports. The trade problem with the former Soviet Union and now with the present Russian Federation states [as heard] essentially is financing, because in the past, the Egyptian Government used to finance exports by pursuing the set-off method—namely, to import commodities equal in value to the exports, based on the payment and trade agreements concluded with the former Soviet

Union. With the collapse of the Soviet Union, these two agreements, particularly the payment agreement, are no longer effective.

Therefore, the Egyptian Government had to reformulate its trade and economic relations with the Russian Federation states quickly in order to secure large funds for Egyptian exports. This can be achieved only if Egypt continues to import its machinery and equipment needs from the Commonwealth states. On this basis, we emphasize the great importance of the results of the visits that the high-level Egyptian delegation led by Dr. Kamal al-Janzuri, deputy prime minister and minister of planning, will pay to six republics in the new Commonwealth. The minister will convey messages from President Husni Mubarak to the presidents of these six republics.

Among the important issues the delegation will discuss is the means to promote trade exchange in relation to the exports and imports between Egypt and the new Commonwealth republics—namely, the promotion of industrial and electrical cooperation and the import of water-pumping stations, tires, and equipment. Plans now are being made for Egypt to obtain the value of its exports in free currency, after securing short- or medium-term financing for its imports. The Egyptian imports [as heard] in the short- or medium-term can be financed only through oil from Egypt, the Gulf states, or Western Europe.

The Egyptian economic delegation will discuss with Russian officials the establishment of a joint bank between one of the Egyptian public sector banks and another in one of the Commonwealth republics.

The Egyptian private sector has made progress in this respect. An Egyptian-Azerbaijani bank is now being established to participate in securing this loan. The establishment of joint projects and Egyptian trade centers in the new Commonwealth republics will open markets to Egyptian products at a time when Egyptian industries increasingly need markets.

If we review the history and volume of what used to be called the Soviet market, as well as the record of Egyptian exports to it, we cannot contemplate the possibility of losing this market. Besides, the promotion of trade and economic cooperation with the new Commonwealth states will have positive effects on Egypt's relations with these states in all fields, be they political or cultural relations, especially as these states for many decades have remained isolated from the rest of the world.

Libya

France Seeks 'Judicial' Cooperation From Tripoli

LD2401104492 Tripoli JANA in English 0817 GMT 24 Jan 92

[Text] Paris, A'ina al-Nar [January] 24, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY—The French Foreign Ministry

spokesman Maurice Gourdou declared "We request cooperation from Libya within the framework of the judicial process."

However the French spokesman did not clarify the type of cooperation which his country is seeking from Libya.

It is noteworthy that Great Jamahiriya, from the beginning, expressed its total readiness to cooperate within the judicial and legal framework to investigate the veracity of these allegations and also it provided all facilities (compatible) with its laws and sovereignty to show the nature of the stance. In conformity with international laws and recognized customs, [words indistinct]. Furthermore the spokesman pointed out that it was the French judiciary was the [words indistinct] in this matter without any right of the French Government to intervene. However the spokesman did not make any reference to the Libyan judiciary which Libyan and international laws give it the sole right to consider these allegations and pass ruling on them without any intervention of any other party.

Two Libyan judges have been continuing their investigations in the allegations despite the obstacles they faced from the three countries which made the claims and even refused any principle of cooperation regarding this issue.

'Downturn' in Relations With Egypt Seen

NC1701125492 Cairo AL-WAFD in Arabic
12 Jan 92 p 9

[Excerpt] Sudanese-Libyan relations are currently on a downturn, according to knowledgeable Sudanese sources, who affirmed that the crisis between the two countries has been generated by the outcome of Iranian President Hashemi-Rafsanjani's visit to Khartoum. The sources said that the visit produced several military and security agreements according to which Iran will supply the regime with weapons and military experts to train revolution security personnel and the popular defense militias.

The sources said that Khartoum has failed to brief the Libyan leadership on the dimensions of the Iranian-Sudanese agreements despite Libyan-Sudanese integration accords. [passage omitted]

Al-Qadhdhafi Receives Chadian Islamic Leader

LD2201194192 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1840 GMT
22 Jan 92

[Text] Tripoli, 22 Jan (JANA)—The brother leader of the revolution received Hissein Hassan Abu Bakr, head of the Higher Council of Islamic Affairs in Chad, and the delegation accompanying him.

During the meeting, brother Hissein Hassan Abu Bakr expressed the solidarity and stand of the Muslim people of Chad alongside their brothers in the Great Jamahiriya in confronting the Anglo-U.S. fabricated allegations.

The meeting was attended by the brother secretary of the World Islamic Call Society.

Al-Qadhdhafi Receives Mandela, PLO's 'Arafat

LD2101100992 Tripoli Great Jamahiriya Radio
Network in Arabic 1230 GMT 20 Jan 92

[Text] The brother leader of the revolution has received Palestinian President Yasir 'Arafat, struggler Nelson Mandela, holder of the al-Qadhdhafi International Prize for Human Rights; and Brazilian Workers Party leader Lula da Silva, who all declared their support for and solidarity with the Great Jamahiriya against the fabricated U.S. and British allegations.

These strugglers praised the objective policy and civilized stand of the Great Jamahiriya, in the face of the Anglo-American campaign of false allegations, stemming from the Jamahiriya's care for getting to the truth and its adherence to international charters and laws.

Official Receives Iranian Majles Delegation

LD2101133692 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1440 GMT
19 Jan 92

[Text] Tripoli, 19 Jan (JANA)—The brother secretary of the General People's Congress ['Abd-al-Raziq Sawwa'] met this morning at the People's Hall in Tripoli with the Iranian Majles delegation led by Brother 'Ali Mohammad Qorbani currently on a visit to the Great Jamahiriya.

The meeting, which was attended by the brother secretary of people's congresses affairs at the General People's Congress, concerned the prospects of consolidating brotherly relations between the General People's Congress Secretariat and the Iranian Majles.

Morocco

Iranian Legislators Visit, Pledge Cooperation

LD1701162192 Rabat MAP in English 1230 GMT
17 Jan 92

[Text] Rabat, Jan 17 (MAP)—Moroccan and Iranian MPs [members of parliament] Thursday pledged to promote bilateral relations and enlarge their scope after a several year rupture and to contribute to the consolidation of Islamic solidarity and defense of Islamic causes. The backing to the Palestinian intifadah, solidarity with Libya in the Lockerbie affair and means to upgrade bilateral relations were at the focus of the talks the visiting Iranian parliamentary delegation had here Thursday with Moroccan MPs. The two sides deplored "the misunderstandings" that have sometimes strained bilateral relations and stressed the need to promote these relations especially as Iran and Morocco are pillars in propagating the precepts of Islam and defending its sacred causes. They also underlined the role the Islamic ummah is called to play in light of the changes worldwide to promote a closer and more fruitful inter-Islamic

cooperation and take up the challenges thrown at the Islamic nation. The two countries' relations should be used to the benefit of the Palestinian intifadah, the Moroccan and Iranian MPs stressed. The Iranian delegation, led by Vice Speaker of the Iranian Parliament Ahmad 'Azizi held separate meetings with Premier Azeddine Laraki, Foreign Affairs and Cooperation State Minister Abdellatif Filali and Islamic Affairs Minister Abdelkebir Alaoui m'Daghri. Ahmad 'Azizi expressed satisfaction at the resumption of diplomatic relations between Morocco and Iran and voiced his country's determination to consolidate cooperation ties with the Kingdom. The Iranian parliamentary delegation is touring the Maghreb at the request of the congress for support to the Palestinian intifadah held in Tehran last October. It already visited Tripoli and Tunis.

Laraki 'Satisfied' With Resumed Ties

LD2101103692 Tehran IRNA in English 1814 GMT
20 Jan 92

[Text] Tehran, Jan. 20, IRNA—An Iranian parliamentary delegation, currently visiting Rabat, discussed ways of expanding Iran-Morocco relations with high ranking Moroccan officials including the prime minister, foreign minister and parliament speaker.

Moroccan Prime Minister Azeddine Laraki told the Iranian delegation that his country was satisfied with the resumption of its ties with Tehran, and called for promotion of mutual relations in various fields.

Tehran-Rabat diplomatic ties were broken off after the victory of the 1979 Islamic revolution and resumed last December.

The parliamentary delegation headed by Ahmad Azizi, member of the Majlis' Foreign Policy Committee, also had a separate meeting in the Moroccan capital with President of Majlis An-Nuwab (parliament) Ahmad Osman.

During the meeting, Osman received a message from his Iranian counterpart Hojjat ol-Eslam Mahdi Karrubi the details of which were not made known.

In its meeting with Minister of Religious Endowments and Islamic Affairs Abdellatif Filali, the delegates blaming colonialism for sowing discord among Muslims, called on Islamic countries to patch up their differences.

King Hassan Receives South Africa's Mandela

LD2101193292 Rabat Moroccan Kingdom Radio
Network in Arabic 1600 GMT 21 Jan 92

[Excerpt] King Hassan II, may God make him victorious, accompanied by Crown Prince Sidi Mohamed, this afternoon at the throne hall at the Marrakesh royal palace received African National Congress Chairman Nelson Mandela. During the audience the noble king decorated Nelson Mandela with the highest class of the Alawi medal. [passage omitted]

Departs 21 Jan

LD2201100492 Rabat Moroccan Kingdom Radio
Network in Arabic 0700 GMT 22 Jan 92

[Text] African National Congress Chairman Nelson Mandela has concluded his visit to Morocco, during which he was received by His Majesty King Hassan II. Nelson Mandela left Morocco yesterday evening. [passage indistinct]

Sudan

Iran Supplying Silkworm Missiles, F-7 Aircraft

NC2201204592 Cairo AL-WAFD in Arabic
19 Jan 92 p 9

[From the "Brothers" page]

[Text] Sudanese military sources have confirmed to the "Brothers" page that Iran supplied the ruling regime in Khartoum with Silkworm missiles and Chinese-made F-7 aircraft. Iran also allocated \$20 million for the Popular Arab Islamic Conference led by Hasan al-Turabi.

In another development, Iranian Majles member Ahmad 'Azizi arrived in Khartoum last week leading a high-level parliamentary delegation to take part in the conference organized by the Khartoum government for the opponents of the Middle East peace process.

Further on Military Cooperation

PM1601093492 London AL-HAYAH in Arabic
13 Jan 92 p 1

[Safa Ha'iri report: "Is Tehran Supplying Khartoum With Missiles and Aircraft?"]

[Excerpts] Paris—Tehran has sent Ahmad 'Azizi, member of the Shura Council (parliament) and former head of the council's Foreign Affairs Committee, to Khartoum at the head of a parliamentary delegation to participate in the conference "in support of the Muslim Palestinian people's revolution," which opposes the present peace process in the Middle East. Meanwhile, new information has revealed that the military and economic cooperation agreements between Iran and Sudan include provisions for the supply to Khartoum of Silkworm missiles and Chinese-made F-7 aircraft. [passage omitted]

Informed Iranian sources have told AL-HAYAH that Hashemi-Rafsanjani's visit resulted in an agreement under which Tehran would supply Khartoum with military equipment worth \$20 million, most of it Iranian-made. It includes ammunition, bombs, semiheavy military equipment, guns, and surface-to-surface Silkworm missiles made in China and assembled in Iran.

Other reports which have not yet been corroborated indicate that Iran has probably supplied Sudan with

Chinese F-7 aircraft, which military experts say are equal in performance to the Soviet MiG-19.

Diplomats in Paris have been quoted as saying that during its talks in Khartoum last month the Iranian side advised Sudanese officials, including President 'Umar Hasan al-Bashir and [National Islamic Front leader] Dr. Hasan al-Turabi, to "leave the non-Muslim (Sudanese) South to its poverty and fragmentation and to concentrate instead on the Muslim North and the Horn of Africa region." [passage omitted]

Finance Minister Reports on Visit to Iran

EA2001103592 Khartoum SUNA in English 1650 GMT
19 Jan 92

[Text] Khartoum, 19th January (SUNA)—Presided over by the chairman of the Revolution Command Council, Gen 'Umar al-Bashir, the cabinet listened in its meeting Sunday [19 January] to a report on the Sudan delegation recent visit to Iran. The minister of finance, 'Abd-al-Rahim Hamdi, who had led the delegation to Iran, said in his report that the visit has come within the framework of pursuing implementation of the joint agreements and the memos of understanding which have been signed by the two countries during the Iranian president's visit to Sudan last December. Hamdi said Iran has agreed to provide the Sudan with crude oil and [word indistinct] readiness to participate in oil prospection in Sudan, indicating that an Iranian technical delegation is expected to arrive to the country shortly for this purpose. The Iranian side has expressed willingness to

import livestock and meat from the Sudan, the minister reported, pointing out that the visit has further discussed the possibility of exploiting the Iranian capabilities in animal resources investment. The two sides have also agreed to organise regular commercial shows in each of the two countries to reactivate exchange of commodities, Hamdi said. The Iranian equipments have arrived here to start immediately the construction of the Iran-financed "peace road" between Genk [as received] and Kusti towns of the White Nile region.

RCC Official Holds Talks With Iranian Envoy

EA2201083992 Khartoum SUNA in English 1640 GMT
21 Jan 92

[Text] Khartoum, 21 Jan (SUNA)—Member of the Revolution Command Council [RCC] and chairman of the Political Committee Col Muhammad al-Amin Khalifah met Tuesday with the Iranian ambassador here in the presence of the foreign minister, 'Ali Ahmad Sahlul. The meeting discussed the progressing and distinguished relations between Iran and Sudan and implementation of agreements signed between the two countries.

Col Khalifah expressed thanks for the Iranian Government over its quick response in the implementation of those agreements and its keenness to promote links between the two Muslim peoples. The meeting has further touched on the media campaigns waged by some enemies who have tried to picture the Sudanese-Iranian bonds as [words indistinct] against certain circles or countries.

Bahrain

Shaykh Khalifah Views Regional Security Issues

PM2201163992 London SAWT AL-KUWAYT
AL-DUWALI in Arabic 19 Jan 92 p 5

[Interview with Bahraini Prime Minister Shaykh Khalifah Bin-Salman Al Khalifah by Bari'ah 'Alam-al-Din in Manama; date not given]

[Excerpts] ['Alam-al-Din] What is your assessment of the results of the summit of the Gulf Cooperation Council [GCC] states' leaders held in Kuwait?

[Al Khalifah] The Kuwait summit was a good opportunity for the GCC states' leaders to discuss the future of this region after the end of the war to liberate Kuwait. In our view, contacts should continue at the highest level in order to draw up a formula and specific view for our coordinated Gulf moves, so that we will be partners, not spectators, in the new international order as a vital and influential regional bloc contributing to resolving the world's problems and realizing its aspirations. [passage omitted]

['Alam-al-Din] How do you visualize the future of Gulf cooperation with Iran?

[Al Khalifah] We believe that the Iranian leadership is adopting a new line seeking rapprochement with all the region's states. It is a line which receives every response from all. This is why we see good prospects for increasing that cooperation, which is based on mutual respect.

['Alam-al-Din] And how do you view Gulf-Iraqi relations?

[Al Khalifah] The Gulf states' relations with Iraq were strong and distinctive. This is why these states' shock was so great when Iraq invaded Kuwait. We hope that the Iraqi people will overcome the predicament which they are experiencing as a result of that invasion and will concentrate on the issues of development and building. [passage omitted]

['Alam-al-Din] How do you view the peace process concerning a solution to the Palestinian problem amid the increasing doubts about reaching positive results in the light of the Israeli obstruction?

[Al Khalifah] We supported the U.S. move to organize the peace conference out of our belief that there was a need to benefit from any available international move to find a just and comprehensive solution to the Palestinian issue, in order to contribute to realizing security and stability in the Middle East and end the explosive hotbeds of conflict that might threaten world peace. And we are confident that U.S. President George Bush's administration is exerting sincere efforts to try to resolve this problem and act as a neutral broker in order to bring views closer among the parties to the negotiations. But the real problem lies in the Israeli intransigence represented in the continued construction of Jewish settlements in the occupied Arab territories and the expulsion of citizens from their country. The recent Security Council resolution condemning Israel's decision to expel

Palestinian citizens from the occupied Arab territories was an important indication of the role which the international community can play in putting pressure on Israel to respond to international legitimacy. [passage omitted]

['Alam-al-Din] What is required at the Arab level to eliminate the threat of nuclear weapons spreading to neighboring states?

[Al Khalifah] What is required is not just an Arab contribution. What is required is full international cooperation to stop the spread of nuclear weapons, which represent a threat not only to the region, but to the world as a whole. And we saw in the catastrophe of the Soviet nuclear reactor in Chernobyl how nuclear radiation threatened other regions beyond the Soviet union. The problem is that, after the collapse of the Soviet Union, there are now increasing possibilities for the spread of nuclear weapons and technology to many of the states aspiring to acquire nuclear weapons and seeking to recruit Soviet scientists to help them in their nuclear programs. Therefore there is a need for international efforts with the participation of the Atomic Energy Agency in order to watch for the spread of nuclear weapons and emphasize the use of that energy for peaceful purposes. This is because there can be no new international order working for a lasting peace while there are nuclear threats which might erupt in any area of tension in the world. [passage omitted]

Kuwait

UK Defense Secretary Confers With Leaders

Meets Prime Minister

NC2201123792 Kuwait Radio Kuwait in Arabic
1000 GMT 22 Jan 92

[Text] His Highness Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah al-Salim al-Sabah, heir apparent and prime minister, received in his office at al- Bayan Palace at 1230 today His Excellency UK Defense Secretary Thomas King and his delegation. Defense Minister Shaykh 'Ali Sabah al-Salim al-Sabah and UK Ambassador to Kuwait Sir Michael Weston attended.

Shaykh 'Ali Al-Sabah met the UK defense secretary and his delegation in his office today to discuss consolidating bilateral relations. Shaykh al-Sabah said that his talks with the UK secretary are part of ongoing consultations aimed at strengthening relations between the two friendly countries and ensuring Kuwait's protection from outside threats.

In an arrival statement, the UK defense minister said that the United Kingdom and the alliance countries are serious about making the Iraqi regime obey international resolutions and release prisoners and detainees.

Prepares Draft Defense Agreement

LD2301113992 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0905 GMT
23 Jan 92

[Excerpts] Kuwait, 23 Jan (KUNA)—At the end of a visit lasting several hours, British Defense Secretary Tom King left Kuwait last night after meeting with his highness the heir apparent and prime minister and the defense minister to prepare the signing of a joint Kuwaiti-British defense agreement when the Kuwaiti defense minister visits Britain early in February. This agreement will encompass planning, training, and supplying equipment. [passage omitted]

Soon after his arrival [in Kuwait] King met with His Highness the Heir Apparent and Prime Minister Shaykh Sa'd 'Abdallah al-Salim al-Sabah, and also with the Kuwaiti defense minister, and discussed bilateral relations, particularly in the military field, with them. The British secretary told REUTER on his arrival that Britain and Kuwait will sign a joint defense agreement during the Kuwaiti defense minister's forthcoming visit to Britain. King pointed out that the two sides have made big progress in completing the details. Tom King further said that Kuwait has given the British-Kuwaiti defense group, which is a group of British companies, a letter of intent for the latter to repair the country's naval base which suffered damages [during the Gulf war].

In reply to a question on whether he supports military action to force the Iraqi regime to release the prisoners and the people detained in Iraqi jails, King said that Britain and the members of the alliance are serious about increasing the pressure on the Iraqi regime to force it to comply with the UN resolutions which it has already accepted. He added that the pressures will continue until the [Iraqi] regime submits to international will.

For his part, [Kuwaiti Defense Minister] Shaykh 'Ali al-Sabah indicated that Kuwait intends to develop its army and aims at a better trained and more experienced force with better equipment rather than forming a larger force. He added that the Gulf Cooperation Council has set for itself a six-month deadline in which it will examine proposals to form a joint military force to defend the region. The plan could include the formation of a new army or be limited to the reinforcement of the Peninsula Shield Force stationed in Saudi Arabia. The Kuwaiti defense minister further said that there is no need now to set up joint [military] training, but that it cannot be ruled out. He indicated that the Iraqi threat to Kuwait still exists and that Kuwait will continue to carry out plans for the setting up of an early warning system all along the border with Iraq.

F-18 Aircraft To Feature in Air Shows

PM2201155792 London SAWT AL-KUWAYT
AL-DUWALI in Arabic 19 Jan 92 p 1

[Ala] al-Bahbahani report: "Defense Minister Tells SAWT AL-KUWAYT: F-18's Will Take Part in Liberation Celebrations"

[Excerpt] Kuwait—Defense Minister Shaykh 'Ali Sabah al-Salim al-Sabah has emphasized that F-18 military aircraft will be received next month, February, and that these aircraft will perform some air formations in Kuwaiti skies during the celebrations marking National Day and Liberation Day.

In a statement to SAWT AL-KUWAYT the defense minister said that we cannot control the northern borders completely, and anyone who says otherwise is mistaken. However, we have to a very large extent managed to limit infiltrators' entry into Kuwait.

On the plan proposed to form a 100,000-strong Gulf army, Shaykh 'Ali al-Sabah said that the plan was still with the chiefs of staff of the Gulf Cooperation Council states, and that work was underway to study ways of implementing it. [passage omitted]

More Than 5,000 Deported to Iraq in 2 Months

NC2201174792 Paris AFP in English 1728 GMT
22 Jan 92

[Text] Baghdad, Jan 22 (AFP) - The Kuwaiti authorities have deported more than 5,000 people, including women and children, to Iraq over the past two months, a Red Cross and Red Crescent Federation official said on Wednesday.

Bassam al-Hadid said the deportees, Iraqis and other Arab nationals, were ordered out between November 15 and January 15.

He told the official AL-JUMHURIYAH newspaper that the expulsions were still under way with 300 people forced out daily towards the Safwan refugee camp on the Iran-Kuwait border.

On November 18, Baghdad announced that Kuwait had deported 80,000 people, most of them Arab nationals, over a four-month period.

Conference Urges Release of POW's in Iraq

NC2201081992 [Editorial Report]

[Editorial report] Kuwait Radio Kuwait in Arabic at 1000 GMT on 21 January broadcasts an 18-minute report on the conclusion of the World Islamic Conference for the Release of Prisoners of War and Detainees Held in Iraqi Prisons, held in Kuwait 19-21 January and chaired by Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah al-Salim al-Sabah, Kuwaiti heir apparent and prime minister. The announcer describes the closing session then reads the 15-minute Kuwait Declaration the conference issued.

The declaration says the conferees:

"1. Condemn and denounce the Iraqi regime's continued criminal detention of the sons of the Kuwaiti people and other sons of the Arab and Islamic nation.

"2. (?Warn) the Iraqi regime that continuing to detain Kuwaiti and other POW's, detainees, and prisoners may

bring more catastrophes and destruction to the Iraqi people and the entire Islamic nation.

"3. Urge the Arab League to rally Arab, Islamic, and international assistance in seeking the immediate release of the POW's and [words indistinct].

"4. Urge the Islamic Conference Organization [ICO] to exploit all official Islamic and international means to end the tragedy of the POW's and the tormented Iraqi people.

"5. Urge the Muslim World League's secretary general to take all possible measures to release Kuwaiti and other POW's.

"6. Urge his eminence al-Azhar's grand imam and the chairman of the International Islamic Council for Call and Relief to use all possible means to end the tragedy of Kuwaiti and other POW's and deliver them from the injustice they are suffering.

"7. Appeal to Amnesty International to exercise international efforts to protect the human rights of Kuwaitis and others who have been unjustly detained and tortured by the Iraqi regime.

"8. Appeal to international humanitarian agencies everywhere to exercise their humanitarian responsibilities to end this painful and ugly tragedy.

"9. Urge the UN secretary general to adopt measures for the prompt release of Kuwaiti and other POW's in accordance with UN Security Council Resolutions 686 and 687.

"10. Condemn the Iraqi regime's accomplices who concluded with it when it professed an Islamic character and who continue to urge participation in their sham Islamic conferences. The conference emphasizes the need to enlighten the Islamic nation on the dangers involved in allowing the Iraqi regime and those who cooperate with it to exploit Islamic slogans."

The Kuwait Declaration then announces the following resolutions:

"1. To form a committee to follow up the recommendations and resolutions of the conference.

"2. [word indistinct] the ICO secretary general to seek [words indistinct] implement Islamic summit resolutions to establish an Islamic court for the protection of human rights.

"3. Send a cable of greeting, gratitude, and appreciation to His Highness Amir Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Jabir al-Sabah and Heir Apparent Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah for hosting the conference and sponsoring this international Islamic meeting in their country and on their triumphant liberated land."

The declaration concludes: "In this historic document, we wish to record our praise and blessing for the pioneering steps his highness the amir of Kuwait and his

enlightened government took when they announced their decision to complete the application of Sharia law in Kuwait."

Petroleum Minister Denies Oil Marketing Troubles

LD2201144692 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0956 GMT
22 Jan 92

[Text] Kuwait, 22 Jan (KUNA)—Petroleum Minister Dr. Hamud al-Raqbah stressed today that oil production operations are proceeding according to plan, and expressed the hope that production will reach 1.5 million barrels per day toward the end of this year—the quota allocated to Kuwait by OPEC.

In a statement to SAWT AL-KUWAYT published today, the petroleum minister said that over 100 productive oil wells are currently operational, most of which were operational previously and had not received crippling damage in the Iraqi invasion. He pointed out that over 10 wells, out of those destroyed by the unjust Iraqi aggression, have been refitted, and that 23 new wells have been drilled. The minister said that Kuwait is not facing any difficulty in marketing its oil and denied rumors that Kuwait is offering discounts in order to encourage old clients to come back.

Oman

Information Minister on Egypt-Iran Mediation

NC2401084692 Cairo AL-AHRAM AL-MASRI
in Arabic 16 Jan 92 p 2

[Interview with Omani Information Minister 'Abd-al-'Aziz al-Rawas by Muhammad Matar; date and place not given]

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] [Matar] The Sultanate of Oman is trying to mediate between Egypt and Iran. How far have these efforts gone?

[A-Rawas] Mediation is a balancing act. If one party rejects mediation we cannot make progress. When we met Egyptian and Iranian leaders to settle some of the issues marring relations we noted a desire to overcome these difficulties and achieve fruitful cooperation for the benefit of the people of Egypt and Iran, two of the largest Islamic countries. The leaders are aware of their responsibility toward the Islamic nation as well as their duty to clear the atmosphere to strengthen Islamic solidarity.

[Matar] Oman has taken many honorable stands to clear the Arab and Islamic atmosphere. Why does it not play this same role between the Gulf countries and Iraq?

[A-Rawas] The Iraqi invasion of Kuwait was by any measure a catastrophe that split the Arab community and both directly and indirectly undermined much of the recent progress toward an Arab homeland, leaving marks on both the Gulf and Arabs. Oman therefore calls for

genuine Arab dialogue and frank and sincere self-appraisal so a new leaf can be turned over based on mutual respect and noninterference. We must judge our own behavior and benefit from our mistakes, not in the traditional way of saying let bygones be bygones, but through serious action.

[Matar] Do the Gulf Cooperation Council [GCC] member-states intend to conclude agreements similar to Kuwait's agreement with the United States or will they be satisfied with providing facilities to allied countries in the event of crises, as they did during the war to liberate Kuwait?

[Al-Rawwas] I cannot speak for other countries. This matter concerns bilateral relations and has nothing to do with collective GCC action. We believe that each country has the right to defend its territories and sovereignty and take measures, in accordance with Article 51 of the UN Charter, to preserve its defense and sovereignty.

[Matar] Iran strongly objects to some policies adopted by GCC countries, both individually and collectively. This became clear when Kuwait signed a security agreement with the United States and it became even more evident after the Damascus Declaration at the latest GCC summit. Does this not appear to be interference in the affairs of others?

[Al-Rawwas] First of all, everybody believes countries have the right to take whatever measures they deem necessary to safeguard their security and interests. In our bilateral and collective contacts with Iran we did not sense any objection to our protecting our interests and territory. We always try to avoid the sensitive issues where information on details and intentions may be sparse. These issues can be discussed, explained, and outlined, so we do not believe they can block relations or cooperation between Iran and GCC countries.

[Matar] Although the Gulf countries wish to establish a Gulf army, GCC leaders did not welcome this idea at the recent GCC summit. Why?

[Al-Rawwas] The fact is that the issue of a unified Gulf army was referred to the Supreme Foreign Security Committee, chaired by Sultan Qabus at the Doha summit in 1990. The committee has made an in-depth study of GCC security needs with a view to drafting a security strategy that considers political, social, and military dimensions. However, they only discussed it from the military aspect and mentioned 100,000 Gulf troops. For their part, the authorities did their duty in this respect and we submitted the draft proposal to the GCC summit so all the Gulf leaders and people could agree.

[Matar] Some say the purpose of this proposal is to circumvent the Damascus Declaration. What do you think?

[Al-Rawwas] It is not true that the idea behind establishing a unified Gulf army is to circumvent the Damascus Declaration, because the Damascus Declaration is the correct framework for common Arab action. Its principles stem from the Arab League charter and are

based on sound grounds. We believe that the Damascus Declaration rests on sound and solid principles and foundations, common objectives, and specific commitments. I believe that the idea of a unified army has been fully explained to all the brother members of the Damascus Declaration.

Saudi Arabia

Popular Dissent Prompts Extensive Arrest Campaign

PM2401102192 London AL-QUDS AL-'ARABI
in Arabic 22 Jan 92 p 1

[Unattributed report "exclusive to AL-QUDS AL-'ARABI": "Large-Scale Arrest Campaign in Saudi Arabia"]

[Text] London—News reports received in London over the past few days say that the Saudi Government is currently facing increasing internal pressures as a result of popular opposition, which is concentrated among university students in particular. And that a group of young religious ulema from outside the official religious establishment is leading the opposition and spreading its reformist ideas, both through leaflets and cassettes and via mosques in the towns and villages.

The reports indicate that the government has responded to these moves by launching an extensive arrest campaign throughout the Kingdom. It was aimed against callers [al-Du'ah], preachers, and Islamic activists, in a bid to limit the expansion of opposition. The number of detainees has already reached more than 50.

The reports also said that the arrest campaign intensified in the wake of the announcement of the government's annual budget, which revealed a deficit of 31 billion riyals or 20 percent of the budget total. This occurred because the announcement of the deficit resulted in angry reactions in popular circles, especially among young people, who now cannot find jobs after graduating from universities.

The opposition criticisms, expressed in statements and leaflets, concentrate on the government's failure to take account of the Kingdom's character as an Islamic country embracing the two holy mosques, and on the squandering of money on personal things that the country and the people do not need, like the propagandistic exhibitions set up by Prince Salman Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz, amir of Riyadh, in European, Canadian, and American capitals, and also the money spent by Prince Bandar Bin-Sultan, the Kingdom's ambassador in Washington, on wedding parties for U.S. soldiers who fought in the Gulf.

The Kingdom's oil policy was also subjected to another campaign of criticism. A leaflet distributed in the Kingdom, a copy of which has been obtained in London, contained the full translation of an article published by the U.S. CHICAGO TRIBUNE newspaper on 10 January 1992, which reveals in figures and factual evidence

the way the Kingdom has supplied the United States with oil at very low prices to bolster the collapsing U.S. economy and to help President George Bush win a second presidential election.

Meanwhile sources say that the number of callers, university students, and employees arrested has exceeded 50. As for those whose names have been received in London, they are [given below].

These names, as the source which supplied us with them from Saudi Arabia said, were obtained from some of the individuals who have been pursued but who have managed to escape from the Saudi intelligence organs, which are now deployed at the approaches to Saudi towns and are setting up extensive checkpoints. The sources also say that there are Egyptian intelligence elements, said to be supervised by former Egyptian Interior Minister Zaki Badr, and that they take part in storming the homes of people accused and taking away individuals from their wives and families.

The following is a list of the new detainees: Hamad al-Khudayri, 21, Riyadh; 'Abdallah Bin-Muhammad al-Muhammid, 25, al-Qasim; Muhammad Bin-Sa'd al-'Asfour, 22, Riyadh; Ibrahim al-Rayyis, 26, al-Qasim; Ahmad al-Qazlan, 23, Dammam; Muqrin al-Muqrin, 26, Riyadh; Ahmad al-'Abadani (muezzin), 18, Riyadh; Ibrahim Bin-Salih al-Khazim, 24, al-Bukayriyah; Ibrahim al-'Id, 25, Riyadh; Mansur Ibrahim, 21, al-Qasim; 'Abd-al-Rahman al-Suwaylim, 28, Najran; Mashari al-Zaydi, 25, Riyadh; 'Abd-al-Hakim al-Hisan, 22, Riyadh; 'Abd-al-'Aziz al-Ibrahim, 21, al-Bi'r; Sa'd al-Quwayz, 23, al-Dawadimi; Fahd Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz al-Yahya, 25, Riyadh; Nasir Bin-Salih al-Barrak, 25, al-Qasim; Sami al-Sanad, 23, Riyadh; 'Abd-al-Malik al-Buraydi, 29, al-Qasim; Majid al-Majid, 25, Riyadh; Muhammad al-Dawsari, 30, Dammam; 'Ali Bin-Khalid al-Khudayri, 16, Riyadh; Sa'ud al-'Utaybi, Riyadh; Ibrahim al-Hadif, 26, Riyadh; 'Abd-al-Malik al-Rayyis (handicapped), 24, Riyadh; Fahd Bin-Fahm al-Qahtani, 17, Riyadh; 'Abdallah al-'Utaybi, 25, Riyadh; Ibrahim Bin-'Abdallah al-Hisan, 26, Riyadh; Riyadh al-Huqayl, 27 Dammam.

United Arab Emirates

Government To Cut Oil Production

LD2201143192 Riyadh SPA in English 1234 GMT
22 Jan 92

[Text] Abu Dhabi, Jan 22, SPA—The United Arab Emirates said on Wednesday it was reducing oil production by 50,000 barrels per day (bpd) to help OPEC efforts to boost prices.

"The UAE, joining the efforts of the member states of OPEC, has decided to cut its production by 50,000 bpd starting today," the official Emirates news agency 'WAM' quoted Oil Minister Yusuf Bin-'Umayr Bin-Yusuf as saying.

The UAE became the ninth member of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries to slash oil output to stem a decline in prices.

Earlier on Wednesday, Indonesia said it would cut 25,000 bpd from its 1.45 million December output.

So far nine OPEC members—Venezuela, Libya, Nigeria, Algeria, Iran, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Indonesia and the UAE—have pledged a total of 410,000 bpd of output cuts until the group's February 12 ministerial meeting which will set an output limit for the second quarter of 1992.

Republic of Yemen

Salih Addresses Interior Ministry Employees

JN1901191792 Sanaa Yemeni Republic Radio Network
in Arabic 1700 GMT 19 Jan 92

[Text] Brother Lieutenant General 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, chairman of the Presidential Council, attended the opening session of the expanded annual meeting of the leadership of the Ministry of Interior and Security to review the year 1991. He delivered a guidance speech in which he voiced his happiness at the meeting he had had with security leaders to review the performance of the country's security organs in light of all the developments in the national, regional, and international arenas. He said: I am pleased with the merger process achieved by the Ministry of Interior and Security in 1991. The brother president stressed the need to promote confidence within the security organs and between all leaders and subordinates at the Ministry of Interior and Security and to avoid the faults and divisive practices inherited from colonialism and the imam. Everyone in the security organs, he said, should have a sense of national responsibility in order to preserve national unity and Yemeni unity.

He urged the security leaders to grant powers to middle and lower subordinates in order to ease centralization and to enable everyone to work in the spirit of one team, confidently and honestly, since the responsibility is a joint one and the duty of everyone, particularly those in the Armed Forces and the security establishment. He asserted: You should be a good example to be followed by other establishments and organs. When you carry out your duties in the spirit of national responsibility, effectively and honestly, others will follow your example. He stressed the need for the Ministry of Interior and Security to formulate an accurate, long-term strategic security plan in light of the available potential in the various districts, provinces, and governorates. That plan, he added, should emerge from fundamentals in light of actual needs and field realities and in harmony with each area's circumstances and nature. An effective central link, he noted, should be worked out to guarantee a high degree of coordination and joint performance between the different security organs.

The brother president referred to the current clamor over the performance of the security organs, the defects, and the

security shortcomings. He explained that there are people who lay in wait to act against unity and the country's security and stability and who are trying to undermine stability within society in an attempt to harm unity.

The brother president stressed the need for the different organs of the Ministry of Interior and Security, including traffic, police, the civil status department, and the passports department, to assess their work and promote their performance in order to be able to extend better service to citizens without confusion or complications and to cover all areas of the republic. He pointed out that the security organ represents the face of Yemen. He said: You have to deal with one another and with other people in the spirit of unity, the spirit of 22 May, the day on which our people ended all the defects of partition and imposed a new reality based on commitment to democracy as an option for national construction.

The brother president added: You, as a security organ, are dutybound to strengthen the bases of security and stability in society. You should not be preoccupied or distracted by the political differences between parties and political organizations. Engage in national action to preserve national unity and protect the homeland from hostile infiltration targeting its security and stability. Your loyalty to the Armed Forces and security should be part of your absolute loyalty to God, the homeland, and the revolution and not to any party or political organization. All conspiracies against unity and the homeland will be crushed by your vigilance and awareness.

The brother president stressed the need for the Ministry of Interior and Security to benefit from all the potential it had acquired as a result of unity, to use and promote the positive aspects and successful experiments achieved by security organs in the past, and to amend and develop these aspects to guarantee a better performance. He explained that after assessing the performance of each employee in accordance with the standards of efficiency, honesty, and work, hard-working employees will be rewarded and wrongdoers will be punished. He stressed the need to benefit from efficient and experienced people in evaluating the work, in formulating plans and concepts, and in proposing suitable executive mechanisms.

The brother president emphasized the need for the political security organ to effectively shoulder its responsibilities in light of the goals and directives specified for it and which suit the era of political pluralism and the political and economic changes in our society. It also should be a sharp eye to protect the homeland and its security from all hostile activities. The brother president stressed the importance of the ability of the organs of the Ministry of Interior and Security to carry out their duty to strengthen law and order so that they become public behavior, to safeguard state secrets and public security, and to fight crime.

The brother president said: Democracy is our option, and we will never abandon it regardless of some excesses against it. The absence of democracy is worse than its

existence. We must not be worried by democracy at all because democracy is the people's option. We should respect that option and adhere to it regardless of the consequences. People must get used to democracy, a process through which people freely express their opinions. Polling boxes, he added, should be pursued by everyone as the most civilized way to reach power instead of resorting to coups and conspiracies. He said that every party taking power through democracy must respect democracy and epitomize it in its dealings with its own members and with other people; it must abide by principles and laws in society, which should not be derailed or overlooked.

The brother president reiterated the need to deepen confidence, cooperation, and unity in society, to overcome the negative legacy of the past and of partition, and to deal with one another in the spirit of unity. Everyone, he added, should use his energy and capabilities to build the new Yemen. He urged the employees of the Ministry of Interior and Security to be bound by high moral standards and noble national behavior; to treat citizens well; to carry out their duties vigilantly, effectively, and honestly; and to face up to the great responsibilities and duties assigned to them. He then wished the meeting every success.

Salih Opens Council of Representatives New Term

JN2201200292 Sanaa Yemeni Republic Radio Network
in Arabic 1700 GMT 22 Jan 92

[Excerpt] Brother Lieutenant General 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, chairman of the Presidential Council, this morning attended the opening session of the first round of the third annual term of the Council of Representatives for 1992. The brother chairman delivered a speech at the beginning in which he congratulated the brother members of the Council of Representatives on the new year and the inauguration of the council's new hall. In his speech, he stressed the need to avoid all types of vituperation and slander which would harm Yemen's unity.

In his speech, the brother chairman added: There must be room in our hearts for each other and we must tolerate each other. We must tackle mistakes, should they exist, with a spirit of responsibility, not with a spirit of tension. Dialogue must always prevail among political forces so that the homeland's interests can be maintained.

He added: At the meeting of the Presidential Council, we have discussed a number of issues, including alliances among political parties and organizations. We stressed the need to bolster the alliance between the General People's Congress and the Yemeni Socialist Party in the interest of the homeland. This does not mean a circumvention of other political parties and organizations. Rather, we are urging all political parties and organizations to sit around a table and hold a responsible national dialogue and to establish a national code of honor, especially since we are approaching the end of the transitional period.

Earlier, brother Dr. Yasin Sa'id Nu'man delivered a speech inaugurating the council's new term, in which he reviewed the council's legislative and control activities last year. [passage omitted]

Council Hears Budget Report

JN2301165392 Sanaa Yemeni Republic Radio Network
in Arabic 1200 GMT 23 Jan 92

[Text] At its meeting today, headed by speaker Dr. Yasin Sa'id Nu'man, the Council of Representatives heard the financial statement for the state general budget, the budgets of the economic sector, and the independent and affiliated budgets for the fiscal year 1992. The statement was presented on behalf of the government by Finance Minister brother 'Alawi al-Salami.

The statement dealt with the domestic economic conditions. It says that the preliminary estimates for the gross domestic product at the current prices have increased from 61,206 million riyals in 1989 to 77,159 million riyals in 1990, carrying a growth rate of 25.7 percent. The initial signs of the gross domestic product for 1991 indicate that it will realize 97,120 million riyals, with a growth rate estimated at 24.2 percent compared with 1990 at the current prices.

As for the national domestic product for 1992, the statement said that it is expected to reach to 111,365 million riyals, with a growth rate estimated at 14.7 percent compared with 1991. The statement said the investment program for 1992 has included details about the contributions of various sectors since 1989.

The financial statement explained the government policy toward prices, stressing that the government has resolved to stabilize the prices of basic commodities,

provide the required foreign funds for importing them during 1992 and at the official exchange rate, and work to unify prices in all governorates.

It stressed the government's commitment to firmly watch the markets, prevent any manipulation of prices, and work with advance planning in accordance with the country's requirements for imports through a studied program for importation that guarantees providing commodities, particularly the basic ones, throughout the year.

The financial statement also referred to the international economic conditions and their impact on the national economy, and called for following a financial and economic policy that is based on more reliance on national savings and available food resources. It stressed a more efficient use of these resources and working for restricting unjustifiable public and private spending in all government organs.

The financial statement defined the public objectives which are the gradual elimination of general budget deficit, boosting the standard of living for government employees, improving educational and health services, meeting external commitments, and supporting the economic sector's units. It emphasized the need to provide the required funds for development.

After the council heard the financial statement, a number of representatives made a host of remarks concerning the way to discuss the financial statement with the concerned government bodies. The council decided to form a work group, headed by brother Sa'id al-Hatimi, member of the council presidium, the members of the financial committee, heads of the council's permanent committees, and a number of representatives who are specialized in this field.

The council will continue its meetings next Saturday, God willing.

Talk: U.S. 'Lost' Gulf War, Gained Arab Rancor
JN2101190492 *Baghdad Voice of Palestine*
in Arabic 1600 GMT 21 Jan 92

[Unattributed talk]

[Text] Brothers: The United States has celebrated the first anniversary of its sinful aggression and horrible crime. It bragged about what it achieved, claiming it achieved a great deal. The United States cannot help but lie and make false claims because it cannot show its failure, frustration, and deep outrage. How does the disappointed and the conceited use his power? He boasts about this power and keeps talking about it. The aim is to threaten and menace.

But the question is: Where is the truth? Has the United States really won as it claims? What has it gained? Has Iraq vanished? Has the regime fallen? Has the giant master of Iraq budged? Has Iraq given in to the malicious scheme and accepted the destruction and fires?

In the confessions of its politicians, media analysts, and former presidents, the United States has not fulfilled its desires and plans. As for the billions of dollars, most of them have been consumed by the aggression, and the rest failed to activate the declining economy. Had the United States acted responsibly, honestly, and respectfully, it would have won in the long run. Now, however, it has lost the future. The only thing it won was the rancor of millions of Arabs, Muslims, and the honorable people of the world. It also won disgrace and all that is ignominious and scandalous.

'Aziz Avows 'Defiant' Posture on UN Edicts
JN2201094292 *Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic*
22 Jan 92 pp 24, 16

[Report by Aman al-Sa'ih in Baghdad]

[Text] Iraqi Deputy Prime Minister Tariq 'Aziz has affirmed that the latest Security Council resolution, which sanctions specific amounts of food and medicine imports, is an arbitrary resolution that is impossible to implement because Iraq does not have the cash required to import any medicine or supplies for the Iraqi people.

During a meeting two days ago with a delegation of the Jordanian Women's Federation and the American Organization for Women and Children, Madre, 'Aziz added that Iraq will not succumb to the Security Council conditions imposed during the September UN meeting. 'Aziz was referring to resolutions which stipulate that the Iraqi Government must sell only part of its oil, and that the largest portion of the funds earned by such sales be allocated for reparations to the countries harmed by the Gulf war.

The deputy prime minister indicated that Iraq is a country which seeks to safeguard its sovereignty and independence, and that it will not bow in the face of any

attempts that could be made during next month's Security Council meeting. He reaffirmed that the Iraqi people have decided to persist with their defiant posture, embodying the spirit of a single nation despite the cruel realities, the daily sufferings, and the successive blows dealt to us from time to time. It is our right as a nation, he added, to occupy a special position and to lead free and decent lives.

During the meeting, which was attended by AL-DUSTUR, 'Aziz went on to say that the blockade cannot continue forever, not because the government's policies will change, but rather because this blockade has turned into a political and ethical burden plaguing foreign governments, just as it is a material burden afflicting all sectors of the Iraqi people. He pointed out that this blockade is not only meant to break Iraq's steel will but also to impose the foreign governments' will on Iraq.

'Aziz said: We, as a leadership and a people, are optimistic about the future. This is because sooner or later they will be forced to gradually ease the blockade restrictions. This blockade, which is a host of restrictions, will disintegrate, not by a Security Council resolution, but rather by the natural course of developments. He added: Our people will not be able to operate their factories, especially because some of them are operated with precision equipment such as power-generating stations and oil refineries. Consequently, this will deny the Iraqi people the opportunity to develop and progress, a matter which contravenes the most basic rights of the Iraqi nation and leadership.

'Aziz urged the U.S. delegation to ask its government to be accurate and objective whenever it reports information on Iraq. It should not attempt, 'Aziz noted, to misrepresent Iraq by way of propagating lies, the authors of which are to be pitied. These lies, he maintained, are part of a series of campaigns aimed at undermining Iraq and its sovereignty.

'Aziz welcomed the U.S. delegation and the Jordanian Women's Federation delegation and praised their efforts, which reflect a sincere humanitarian solidarity with Iraqi children. He added that these efforts are attempts that have humanitarian significance, despite the fact that they have thus far failed to generate any tangible pressure or any effective international moves.

Responding to a question concerning UN Secretary General Butrus Ghali, 'Aziz said: Thus far we have not heard anything from him. Similarly, we have not seen any of his deeds. However, I hope that his being the UN chief will contribute to the lifting of the blockade imposed on the people and children of Iraq.

During the meeting Tariq 'Aziz reviewed the facts regarding events which preceded the start of the 30-state military aggression against Iraq—the facts which confirm that there was a determination to launch the aggression before the events of August 1990 even took place.

Al-Anbari: UN Oil Talks Set for 10 Feb

JN1901130292 Baghdad AL-THAWRAH in Arabic
17 Jan 92 pp 2, 11

[By Sa'd 'Abd-al-Latif]

[Text] Dr. 'Abd-al-Amir al-Anbari, Iraq's permanent envoy to the United Nations, has stated that a second round of talks between Iraq and the United Nations will be held on 10 February.

Dr. al-Anbari said he hopes that matters will develop in a new direction toward eliminating obstacles and overcoming problems of which UN circles are most probably unaware when they adopt decisions.

In an interview with AL-THAWRAH, al-Anbari said that after accepting the principle of reparations Iraq reserves the right to reduce the percentage of the reparations as much as possible, especially during the five-year period of rebuilding what had been destroyed by the aggression. It will also call for removing any obstacles hindering the export of Iraqi oil and the import of all commodities of a civilian nature needed by the Iraqi people. He emphasized that the harsh conditions of the embargo and the land and air blockade imposed by the UN Security Council have exhausted their purpose. He added that these conditions are illegitimate now that the crisis has been settled.

He added that the amount of \$1.6 billion set by the UN Security Council to cover Iraq's needs was arbitrary and covers very little of Iraq's needs. This is especially true because the net amount will be no more than \$900 million after deducting the reparations and the expenses of the various UN committees. He added: The resolution is illogical and Iraq cannot deal with it because it does not meet the Iraqi people's needs, especially following the aggression and the destruction of the infrastructure and utilities, as these needs do not end with the end of the six-month time period. It is neither logical, practical, nor in line with the traditions in practice within the international oil community to set a specific time frame or a certain sum of money. That's why we will do our best to remove as many restrictions as possible concerning the production ceiling or the sums of money that could be obtained.

Al-Anbari affirmed that the Iraqi authorities have completely cooperated and provided the various inspection teams with what they needed to fulfill their tasks. He said there is nothing new that could be submitted, and he pointed out that these teams continue to look for the unknown and use all excuses to justify their continued presence in Iraq.

Al-Anbari said that the 30-country alliance always seeks, particularly when the time comes for the UN Security Council to review the economic sanctions, to launch campaigns to cover up the acts of aggression they carried out against Iraq and to maintain the siege.

As for the aid given by the UN agencies and humanitarian organizations, Dr. al-Anbari said: Although we appreciate these good efforts, the aid given is only a drop in the ocean when compared to the consumption of the Iraqi citizens. He pointed out that no organization, irrespective of its size, can provide the food needed by the people, whether in the Kurdistan region or in southern Iraq.

Al-Anbari affirmed that many international organizations, including the UN team and the Harvard University team which toured all the governorates in Iraq, have affirmed that the ration card system in force in Iraq is efficient, comprehensive, and fair and that the Iraqi Government and the Ministry of Trade with the expertise they have acquired know better about Iraq's needs than does any other party.

Al-Anbari said: According to the UN Sanctions Committee's decision, the countries in which we have frozen assets can and are free to unfreeze these assets to enable the Iraqi authorities and the importing parties to use these assets to pay for imported food. They could also resort to the method of deferred payment. Some countries such as the United Kingdom, Germany, and Italy, which have unfrozen all or part of Iraq's assets, can finance deals from other countries by sending them the sums needed. Not one of these countries has done this, however.

Concluding his interview, al-Anbari said he is proud of the Iraqi people's steadfastness and ability to rebuild what was destroyed, under the unique leadership of President Saddam Husayn, who managed to consolidate the Iraqi people's unity and to make the Iraqi people look forward to a bright future and a life replete with the requisites of tranquility, stability, and security.

Opposition Figure Urges Citizens To Oust Saddam

NC2101123792 Paris AFP in English 1204 GMT
21 Jan 92

[Text] Nicosia, Jan 21 (AFP)—An Iraqi opposition leader, following reports that the United States may step up efforts to oust Saddam Husayn, insisted Tuesday that the president's removal must be the work of the Iraqi people.

"The United States is sufficiently prudent not to invade Iraq without justification," Ayatollah Muhammad Taqiyy Mudarissi of the Tehran-based Organization of Islamic Action told AFP in Damascus.

"If the aim is to overturn Saddam Husayn in conjunction with the opposition, according to international justification and under international control, that would be acceptable—even though we believe his overthrow is first and foremost the responsibility of the Iraqi people.

"If the United States has the firm and true intention to get rid of Saddam Husayn, it must be implemented by supporting the struggle of the Iraqi people," he argued.

His remarks followed a report in THE NEW YORK TIMES that senior U.S. and Saudi officials had been discussing military and covert action plans aimed against Husayn.

U.S. Defense Secretary Richard Cheney on Sunday declined to comment on the report, which said Saudi Arabia had been urging the United States to organize a massive campaign to dislodge the Iraqi leader.

Prior to THE TIMES article, Ayatollah Madaressi had described efforts to oust Husayn as "insufficient" and urged Washington and its allies "to make a decisive choice" on their contribution to his removal.

Anti-Saddam activists were meanwhile meeting in Damascus on Tuesday to prepare a second Iraqi opposition gathering, following the first such congress held in Beirut last March.

The date and location of the meeting, which would bring together Kurdish, nationalist, and religious opponents, have not been chosen but the choices of venue are believed to include Iraqi Kurdistan, Riyadh and Beirut.

Ayatollah Madaressi acknowledged that problems exist within the opposition but said agreement had been reached on a three-point platform: "The impossibility of dealing with the Saddam regime, a commitment to a multiparty system, and a freeze in our minor disagreements until the regime is toppled."

In Saudi Arabia, where he sought refuge following his defection, Iraq's former Ambassador to Spain Arshad Tawfiq Isma'il said recently that an underground opposition movement had emerged within the ruling Ba'ath Party.

Its mission, he added, was to force the immediate departure of Husayn, replacing him with a transitional government to supervise free elections.

The movement has already held secret talks with Kurdish and Shiite representatives, according to Isma'il.

But an attempt by another Husayn foe, Tehran-based Ayatollah Muhammad Baqr al-Hakim, to unify the opposition around a single strategy has not yet borne fruit.

He was in Damascus recently with a plan to topple Husayn reportedly backed by Saudi Arabia and the United States, but apparently failed to secure Syrian backing.

"There has to be a combination of a major covert operation and a major air operation," THE TIMES quoted an allied source as saying. "And then leave the rest to the Iraqi people."

For the moment, however, there has been no firm evidence that Washington has actually decided to boost its support for the opposition.

President George Bush last week marked the first anniversary of the outbreak of the Gulf war by expressing the hope that Husayn would be driven out but excluded a new military offensive.

Barzani Denies Dialogue on Autonomy Failed

*JN1801210192 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic
1700 GMT 18 Jan 92*

[Text] The Kurdish opposition groups have apparently not lost hope of reaching an agreement with the Iraqi regime on autonomy in Iraqi Kurdistan. Mas'ud Barzani, leader of the Democratic Party of Kurdistan, has told our radio station that negotiations on this issue have not failed and that the essential differences center on the borders of the autonomous region.

Barzani's remarks were in response to a question by our London correspondent Huda al-Husayni, who met Barzani in Turkey.

[Begin Barzani recording] Certainly negotiations have not reached a dead end. The dialogue is continuing, be it through the Central Coordination Committee or ... [changes thought] Even I personally returned from Baghdad only a month ago. There is no decision by the Kurdistan Front to stop negotiations. Negotiations have met with some snags at the present for many reasons. Basically, the main point is the border problem, the autonomous region's borders. There are continuous attempts by the two sides to find a reasonable formula to bypass this snag. When we find that we can bypass this snag, I think that the other problems will be solved. [end recording]

Shamir Says Elections To Be Held in June

*TA2401122492 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew
1200 GMT 24 Jan 92*

[Text] Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir has told SHAS [Torah Observing Sephardim] leaders that the elections will be brought forward to June. He also said that he is positive that a Knesset majority will defeat the no-confidence motion on Monday [27 January]. The SHAS leaders told the prime minister that they prefer elections to be held in November, but if he wishes to bring them forward, they will support his move.

Our party affairs correspondent Shlomo Raz notes that the prime minister met earlier with Deputy Minister Efrayim Gur, who demanded that the Likud adhere to the agreement in which it guaranteed him membership in the next Knesset. Shamir told the deputy minister that the Likud Central Committee will take the agreement into consideration.

Our correspondent notes that the Likud regulations stipulate that the agreement with Gur will be valid only if 75 percent of the Central Committee members endorse it.

Majority for Government Ensured by Tzomet Return

*TA2301182292 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew
1800 GMT 23 Jan 92*

[Text] The extended Tzomet Secretariat this evening decided to instruct the two Knesset members representing it to vote for the government in the Knesset debate on the no-confidence motions next week. Our correspondent Yo'el Nir reports that this ensures a majority vote for the government.

The secretariat made no new decisions concerning contacts between the party and the Likud on Tzomet's return to the coalition.

Sharon Declares Plans To Run for Prime Minister

*TA2301140592 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew
1300 GMT 23 Jan 92*

[Text] Minister Ari'el Sharon has announced that he will run for prime minister. Sharon said that he is one of those who can handle security affairs, negotiate with the Arab countries, and reach peace arrangements. Referring to the Knesset elections date, he said that he would prefer they be held on the date stipulated by law, but if they are advanced, there will be no choice but to hold them with the current composition of the Likud Central Committee.

The construction and housing minister added that there is no linkage between settlement and the loan guarantees that Israel is asking from the United States. Our correspondent Esti Shreck reports that Minister Sharon made the remarks in an address to students in Tel Aviv.

Shamir Aides See Nothing New

*TA2301161292 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew
1500 GMT 23 Jan 92*

[Excerpt] Officials at the prime minister's bureau said that Minister Sharon's declaration that he would run for the leadership of the Likud does not constitute anything new. The sources added that the prime minister wanted the Likud to complete its preparations for the elections during February, so that it would be ready when the time came. [passage omitted]

[Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew at 1500 GMT on 23 January adds: "Senior Likud elements today said that the State Department may have a say in whether early elections are held in Israel or not. If Israel gets the loan guarantees, the prime minister may decide on early elections by Sunday."]

Detention of Six Lebanese Confirmed

*TA2401113692 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew
24 Jan 92 p 4*

[Report by On Levi]

[Text] The IDF [Israel Defense Forces] spokesman last night confirmed that the six Shiite Lebanese mentioned in an Amnesty International message are being held in custody in Israel.

The six are members of Hizballah or affiliated with it and were directly or indirectly involved in terror activity in Lebanon. They are legally held in Israel and the International Red Cross has been officially notified of their detention.

Temporary Injunction Against Deportation Granted

*TA2201141992 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew
1330 GMT 22 Jan 92*

[Text] The Palestinians who today appealed to the High Court of Justice against their deportation will not be deported from Israel before the hearing of their appeal ends. This was stated by Judge Ya'aqov Maltz in an interim injunction he issued this afternoon upon the prospective deportees' request.

Deportation of Ramallans Urged

*TA2301202592 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew
2000 GMT 23 Jan 92*

[Excerpt] Major General Dani Yatom, commander of the Central Command, has decided to accept in full the recommendations of the military advisory committee and has therefore decided to deport four of the five prospective deportees from the Ramallah area. The fifth man, Iyad 'Abd-al-Ra'uf Jawdah, will not be deported as the Israel Defense Forces has at its disposal other, less drastic, means to disrupt his activities.

Official military sources told our correspondent Moti Amir that contrary to the other candidates for deportation, no administrative measures were ever adopted against 'Abd-al-Ra'uf Jawdah, except one administrative detention order issued last year. [passage omitted]

Jewish Group, Saudi Leaders on Possible Ties

TA2301163992 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew
1500 GMT 23 Jan 92

[Report by Arab affairs correspondent Gay Bekhor]

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] While on their most important Middle East tour, the heads of the U.S. Jewish Congress met in Cairo today with Egypt's President Hosni Mubarak.

Yesterday, they met in Riyadh with Saudi Foreign Affairs Minister Sa'ud al-Faysal and with Prince Salman, King Fahd's brother. Saudi Arabia unconditionally recognizes Israel's existence, the Jewish leaders quoted Sa'ud al-Faysal who, according to them, added that he intends to attain full diplomatic relations with Israel.

Bank Governor: Guarantees 'Extremely Crucial'

TA2301162592 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew
1500 GMT 23 Jan 92

[Text] Professor Ya'akov Frenkel, governor of the Bank of Israel, has said that the U.S. guarantees are extremely crucial because Israel's ability to borrow money on the international market is limited. The governor asserted that if Israel receives the guarantees and invests the money correctly, it will be able to pay back all the loans.

Frenkel said that the problem of unemployment in the productive sector must be resolved and that the government must now invest in infrastructure.

The governor will leave on Sunday with the Israeli delegation to the multilateral talks in Moscow. He will serve as the team's senior economic representative and discuss regional economic cooperation.

New Palestinian Party in Territories Analyzed

TA2301141592 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew
23 Jan 92 p A5

[Report by Yosi Torpstein]

[Text] A leaflet signed by the "Temporary Leadership Committee" announcing the establishment of a new Palestinian party, the Palestinian Democratic Rally, has recently been disseminated in the territories. The party describes itself as a democratic organization combining several Palestinian factions.

Its political platform stems from the basic Palestinian national principles of striving for self-determination and the establishment of an independent state led by the PLO, the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. According to the leaflet, the struggle to end Israeli occupation and fulfill national goals are currently the first priorities of the new party.

The party's socioeconomic platform highlights the aspiration for a democratic, pluralistic leadership in all Palestinian walks of life and the fulfillment of social justice in all strata of society when the independent Palestinian government is established.

Moreover, the new party calls for alliances and cooperation with other Palestinian organizations "because all of us are fighting in the same trenches against occupation and yearn for an independent homeland and a free, happy people."

According to Palestinian sources, the party was established by a splinter group of the former Palestinian Communist Party. Bashir al-Barghuthi, the old-time leader of the communists in the territories and editor-in-chief of AL-TALI'AH, a few months ago announced that the party's name will henceforth be the Palestinian People's Party. Some party members objected to the change, arguing that it was not enough to change the name and become "Fatah No. 2," so the new name should have a concrete ideological content.

These are the same people who have now established the Palestinian Democratic Rally, which favors a national social-democratic platform with traces of Marxist terminology. A prominent member of the new party is George Hazbun, head of the communist trade unions, and the current deputy chairman of the General Federation of Trade Unions in the West Bank. Other activists include members the Democratic Front's 'Abd-Rabbuh's faction.

The Palestinian Communist Party, officially established in the territories in 1982 after its Palestinian founders seceded from the Jordanian mother-party, has thus come to its end.

Palestinian sources now foresee an exacerbation in the power struggle between the two communist factions over the party's assets: a newspaper, a bulletin, and control of the trade unions.

Americans, Israelis 'Cooking Something Up'

JN2401125692 Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic
24 Jan 92 pp 1, 16

[Editorial: "They Kill Us With Aircraft, and Money Too!"]

[Text] Yitzhaq Shamir's letter to the U.S. secretary of state, press reports from Washington, and the talk about paying in installments the \$10 billion which Israel wants to carry out its settlement policy, are all indications that the Americans and the Israelis are cooking something up. What is being cooked has the framework of lies, about disagreements between the two sides, and the alleged false success of U.S. pressure on Israel. However, its essence is that there is nothing new in U.S. or Israeli policies before, during, and after the Gulf crisis, with regard to the Middle East crisis and its core, the Palestinian question.

Israel is not asking to receive the \$10 billion on the first plane leaving Washington for Ben-Gurion Airport, or to receive this amount in an urgent bank transfer. This year, 1992, Israel needs \$2 billion. Reports from Washington state that President Bush's administration agreed to grant guarantees to U.S. banks so this amount could be extended to Israel. That Shamir sent a letter to Baker on the eve of the U.S. decision on the loan guarantees; that the letter was publicized by various media; and that focus was made on the letter, or rather that it was portrayed as if it represented Israeli submission to U.S. conditions, are all part of a naive propaganda campaign. This campaign aims at deceiving U.S. public opinion, Arab public opinion, and world public opinion, to continue to present the lie about the new world order, that is based on the principles and resolutions of international legitimacy, to us and others, and to avoid saying that the ongoing dirty war against the Iraqi people, under the banner of international legitimacy, is no more than a U.S. war to take revenge on our nation, and a war that was waged and continues to be waged by Western countries for Israel.

Everybody knows that without U.S. money, Israel could not in the past, and cannot in the present and future, continue to challenge international legitimacy, wage aggressive and expansionist wars, and annex to its state—whose boundaries are not yet known to anyone—any part of the Arab land it occupies. Therefore, the Israeli need for U.S. money—not necessarily from the U.S. Treasury—is a fatal one, toward which Israel cannot resist any U.S. pressure. When we call for such pressure, we are not asking for an embargo on the Israelis, killing their children through starvation or their sick people through lack of medicine, as Washington is doing against the Iraqi people. We are only asking for pressure to force Israel to accept Security Council resolutions, implement them, and respect this international body which was responsible for creating Israel through oppression and aggression.

We are afraid that the United States, which kills the Iraqis through the ugliest of means under the umbrella of

international legitimacy, would kill the Palestinians through money by extending it under the umbrella of international legitimacy to an expansionist and occupying force. Then come those who ask us to discuss the region's water, environmental, psychological, educational, and economic problems, as if when our people lose their land and dignity they will continue to live to face the problems of death, not the problems of life.

Political Prisoners Freed by Syria Arrive in Amman

JN2401105292 Amman SHIHAN in Arabic
25-31 Jan 92 p 2

[Text] Jordanian political sources have disclosed that a large number of political detainees in Syria arrived in Amman following their release by the Syrian Government.

Available information indicates that approximately 3,000 detainees from Palestinian, Arab, and Islamic organizations, including the Fatah Movement, the Communist Action Party, the Muslim Brotherhood, and the Iraqi Ba'th Party, may also be released.

Political sources, however, added: Most of those already released are second- and third-class leaders, and there is no news about first-class leaders such as Salah Jadid, Riyad al-Turk, and Nur-al-Din al-Atasi.

Royal Decree Appoints Salah Senate Member

JN2301131192 Amman Radio Jordan Network
in Arabic 1200 GMT 23 Jan 92

[Summary] The Senate held a meeting this morning under Senate President Ahmad al-Lawzi. Dhuqan al-Hindawi, deputy prime minister and education minister; Engineer 'Ali al-Suhaymat, deputy prime minister and transport minister; and a number of other government ministers attended.

At the beginning of the Senate session, a royal decree was read out appointing 'Abdallah Salah as a Senate member. A House of Representatives' letter, including approval of amendments to the Central Bank of Jordan law, was also read out.

Gulf War 'Not Disaster' for Arab Nation

JN1901114192 Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic 19 Jan 92
p 24

["Highlights" column by Dr. Fahd al-Fanik: "One Year After the U.S.-Arab War"]

[Text] One full year has passed since the first U.S.-Arab war in history during which the United States managed to kill about a quarter of a million Arabs, either directly with explosives, or indirectly through the economic siege. The killing process continues, intentionally and deliberately, for revengeful purposes.

Every drop of Arab blood is dear and will not go in vain. Responsibility for it will hang on the neck of U.S.

President George Bush, who is still carrying out the slaughter, in the belief that he is serving the U.S. interests in the Middle East and safeguarding Israel's security and superiority.

We contend, however, that the war has not been a disaster for the Arab nation as some have portrayed it. One year ago we said that even if America and its followers win militarily, they will be defeated politically. A year after the war, this has started to become apparent.

Iraq is still and will continue to be a thorn in the side of the enemies of the Arab nation and those who have ambitions on its land. Iraq is maintaining the unity of its territory, people, and regime and is standing fast in face of the cruelest brutal siege that conflicts with the simplest human rights.

The Arab regimes which betrayed their Arab affiliation have been exposed. These regimes have placed their potentials at the disposal of the U.S. imperialism, fought Israel's battle on its behalf, and put their Arab soldiers in the same trench with the colonialist enemy and the Zionist enemy. All this has taken place so that Arab oil will continue to be for the West and so that Israel remains the strongest.

During 1990, about 800,000 Iraqi children were born. This is several times more than the casualties inflicted by the United States on the Arab people of Iraq, whether through bullets, burying people alive, or banning medicines, food, and medical and health requirements.

The Iraqi oil which was not exported is still under the Iraqi ground and will be exported in the future at a price several times more than the price it would have been sold at if the unjust U.S. siege had not been there.

The (Arab) regimes which appeared as if they have won, did not have the courage to celebrate victory because of their feeling of disgrace and because they know, deep in their hearts, that they are defeated, and are in a critical condition. They are subdued because they have officially put themselves under the U.S. protection.

The proxy regimes which put their Arab armies under the command of the hateful monster Schwarzkopf, which were deployed on the sands of Hafar al-Batin, provided a cover and legitimacy for the foreign aggression and contributed to Israel's plans and higher interests. They may have received some payments and

rewards, but they are doomed by their own actions and they have practically relinquished their claim of leading the Arab nation because the one who follows a foreigner is not qualified to lead a militant nation.

Iraqi human losses from the war have been compensated and its material losses will be compensated. The losses of America and America's Arabs are moral ones and cannot be compensated, but their price will be very dear and it has not yet been paid.

Sudanese Envoy Arrives With Note for King Husayn

*JN2201125292 Amman Radio Jordan in English
1200 GMT 22 Jan 92*

[Text] The special Sudanese envoy Mr. Mahdi Ibrahim Muhammad arrived in Amman today carrying a message to His Majesty King Husayn from the Sudanese president of the Revolutionary National Salvation Council.

Mr. Mahdi told Radio Jordan that his mission comes in the framework of consultation and coordination between Jordan and Sudan in the current circumstances. He added that he will discuss with Jordanian officials the promotion of bilateral relations between the two countries.

Gives al-Bashir Message to King

*JN2301164792 Amman Radio Jordan Network
in Arabic 1500 GMT 23 Jan 92*

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn received at the Royal Hashemite Court this afternoon Mr. Mahdi Ibrahim, envoy of president 'Umar Hasan Ahmad al-Bashir, chairman of the Revolutionary Command Council for National Salvation in the Republic of Sudan.

He delivered to his majesty a message from the Sudanese president dealing with bilateral relations and the joint Jordanian-Sudanese desire to clear the Arab air and overcome the results of the differences and results caused by the Gulf crisis.

His majesty and the Sudanese envoy exchanged views on deepening bilateral cooperation, particularly in the economic fields.

The meeting was attended by 'Adnan Abu-'Awdah, chief of the Royal Hashemite Court; His Highness Prince Talal Bin-Muhammad, military secretary of his majesty; and the Sudanese ambassador in Amman.

Further Reportage on Rshaf Village Blockade

Karami Asks Envoys To Pressure Israel

NC2301134692 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain
in Arabic to Lebanon 1230 GMT 23 Jan 92

[Text] Prime Minister 'Umar Karami continues to pay attention to the situation in the south, especially the attack on Rshaf. He told Security Council member countries' ambassadors to Lebanon about attacks, asking their countries to put pressure on Israel to stop its terrorist practices. Yesterday, Karami met the ambassadors of the United States, Russia, and France and today he met those of the PRC and Britain.

After concluding the two meetings, Karami said: We concluded our moves today and the picture is the same as it was yesterday. The ambassadors have asked for time to discuss the issue with their governments. We are in constant touch with our representative in New York. I can say that the cabinet's likely policy will be to ask the Security Council to convene if there is no change within the next 24 hours.

Asked if there had been any new developments, Karami said: So far, no. I will talk to our representative at the United Nations later. So far, we have received no word. Asked if there was any reaction by the ambassadors he had already met, he said: Yes, but only on a personal level. They are contacting their governments.

UNIFIL Protests Division of Rshaf

NC2301145892 Paris AFP in English 1409 GMT
23 Jan 92

[Text] Beirut, Jan 23 (AFP)—The Swedish commander of United Nations forces in Lebanon has protested to Israel against moves to divide a village in southern Lebanon, a UN source reported Friday.

Swedish General Lars-Eric Wahlgren said the measure by Israeli troops and their allies prevented the mobility of UN troops, residents of Rshaf village and Red Cross officials, the source told AFP.

Wahlgren toured Rshaf on foot Wednesday after being prevented from entering by car because of barbed wire strung across the village the previous day by Israeli soldiers and elements of the South Lebanon Army (SLA).

Nepalese units serving with UNIFIL are deployed in the northern sector of Rshaf and SLA forces in the southern part of the town, which lies outside an Israeli-imposed "security zone" in southern Lebanon.

The SLA on Thursday blew up four houses near the barbed wire, according to regional security sources, who said the inhabitants had fled on Tuesday.

Two SLA fighters were killed in a bomb explosion inside Rshaf on January 17.

SLA second-in-command 'Aql Hashim told the Arabic language newspaper AL-NAHAR that the Israeli-trained and financed militia "must take adequate measures to confront terrorists (anti-Israeli combatants)."

He accused UNIFIL—United Nations Interim Forces in Lebanon—of "failing to fulfill its mission to maintain peace and of allowing" anti-Israeli combatants to infiltrate into the security zone, which is jointly patrolled by SLA and Israeli forces.

The Lebanese Government has accused Israel of trying to "annex" territory inside Lebanon and has lodged a protest with UN Secretary General Butrus Ghali.

An official source said the government also "retained the right to request a meeting of the Security Council to consider unjustified aggression against the villages of Tibnin, Haris, Haddathah and 'Ayta al-Jabal" in southern Lebanon.

SLA units have shelled the towns over the last four days.

SLA Denies Demolishing Homes

TA2401094592 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew
0930 GMT 24 Jan 92

[Text] The SLA [South Lebanese Army] western division commander has denied various reports alleging that his troops prevented UN personnel from entering and distributing food and medicine in the village of Rshaf in southern Lebanon. Lebanese sources claim that the SLA has imposed a blockade on the village. The division commander further denied reports that the SLA blew up houses in Rshaf last night. This was reported by our correspondent in the north Menahem Horowitz.

Hizballah Denounces 'Silence'

NC2401083592 Ba'labakk Voice of the Oppressed
in Arabic 0630 GMT 24 Jan 92

[Text] A responsible Hizballah source has denounced the international community's silence over the [Israeli] enemy working to annex Rshaf to the occupied strip.

The source denounced some Western diplomats in Beirut for claiming that they did not know what was happening in Rshaf. Had it not been for the tension's negative effects on the negotiating process, the source added, no voice would have been heard and no conscience would have been moved.

The source called on leaders and officials to act to remove the dangers facing the south and to stop Israel annexing territories, stealing water, and displacing the people. It said that Lebanon's participation in the peace negotiations is an incentive for the occupier to step up pressure and aggression to obtain new concessions. The source stressed the need to strengthen the resistance and the people's resolve against the occupation, adding that the people know only painful blows.

Defense Minister Orders Army Deployment in South

NC2401121892 Beirut Radio Lebanon in Arabic
1145 GMT 24 Jan 92

[Text] The Defense Ministry's information department has issued a statement saying that the Lebanese Army will deploy in Tayr Dibbah tomorrow.

The statement says: Defense Minister Michel al-Murr today instructed the Army command to deploy in the south, specifically in Tayr Dibbah, Burj Rahhal, Bidyas, al-'Abbasiyah, Dayr qanun al-Nahr, Tura, and al-Bazuriyah, tomorrow morning. The deployment follows an agreement reached with the UN forces and is approved by the UN secretary general.

Blast Near Sujud Hits Lahd Vehicle

NC2301180592 Beirut Radio Lebanon in Arabic
1630 GMT 23 Jan 92

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] An explosive device went off today near the village of Sujud. The target was a car belonging to a Lahd militia agent. Reports said losses were material. Reports also indicate that the militia continued its shelling of Sujud and environs.

The Israeli occupation forces today indiscriminately raked areas near their locations in Sujud using machineguns and RPG's. [passage omitted]

Israeli Helicopters Raid Resistance Positions

NC2301181192 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
1715 GMT 23 Jan 92

[Text] Security sources report that Israeli helicopters raided the towns of al-Luwayzah and Mlita this afternoon and fired a number of missiles against Islamic Resistance positions.

The helicopters also raked the vicinity of 'Arab Salim and Jarju' with heavy-caliber machineguns.

The artillery bombardment resumed against Iqlim al-Tuffah this afternoon. Shells reached 'Ayn Bu Siwar, Jarju' and the outskirts of 'Arab Salim.

AFP Provides Details

NC2301182292 Paris AFP in English 1750 GMT
23 Jan 92

[Text] Sidon, Lebanon, Jan 23 (AFP) - Israeli artillery heavily shelled pro-Iranian fundamentalist positions in south Lebanon Thursday following an attack against an Israeli-backed militia.

Artillery in Israel's self-declared "security zone" in south Lebanon fired at Hizballah positions in the Iqlim al-Tuffah hills, north of the zone's central sector, a Lebanese military source said.

Shelling continued in the afternoon at a sustained rate and targeted bases of the fundamentalist group hidden in rocks, far from the populated areas of Iqlim al-Tuffah, the source said.

The shelling came after a bombing that damaged a vehicle of the Israeli-backed South Lebanon Army (SLA), which was travelling in Soujoud at the northern edge of the "security zone." The area overlooks Iqlim al-Tuffah.

The SLA machine-gunned enemy positions "beyond the security zone," a source close to the militia said.

The Lebanese military source told AFP that Israeli combat helicopters flew over the shelled area and dropped flares.

No group claimed responsibility for the bombing, the fifth in as many days.

Attacks Continue; Injured Girl Dies

NC2401070992 Beirut Radio Lebanon in Arabic 0530
GMT 24 Jan 92

[Excerpt] The Israeli forces continued their attacks on southern Lebanon yesterday, indiscriminately raking areas near their position in Tallat Sujud with machine guns and rockets from 0900. An 11-year-old girl in Kafr Tibnit died from wounds inflicted by Israeli sniper fire three months ago.

Israeli warplanes flew low over Sidon, Tyre, and Iqlim al-Tuffah last night after firing dozens of flares, and Israeli gunboats were spotted cruising off the Lebanese coast from Tyre to al-Zahrani.

In a new development forcing civilians to leave their homes, Agent Lahd forces blew up four houses in Rshaf's north. [passage omitted]

Washington Talks Delegates Return to Beirut

NC2301182792 Beirut Radio Lebanon in Arabic
1630 GMT 23 Jan 92

[Text] The Lebanese delegation to the Washington peace talks returned to Beirut this evening. Ambassador Suhayl Shammās heads the group, comprised of the following people: Ja'far Mu'awiyah, Jihad Murtada, Samir Mubarak, Lieutenant Colonel Mahir al-Tufayli, and Lieutenant Colonel Shafiq Mahran.

Ambassador Riyad al-Qintar, Foreign Ministry chief of protocol, met the delegation at the airport.

'No Progress' Reported

NC2401084492 Beirut Radio Lebanon in Arabic
1630 GMT 24 Jan 92

[Text] The Lebanese delegation to the peace talks, led by Ambassador Suhayl Shammās, Foreign Ministry secretary general, returned to Beirut at 1715 yesterday. Delegation members included Ja'far Mu'awiyah, Jihad Murtada, Samir Mubarak, Lieutenant Colonel Mahir al-Tufayli, and Lt. Col. Shafiq Mahran.

Ambassador Shammass said: We stopped over in Paris for a lengthy working meeting with Foreign Minister Faris Buwayz, who left for Morocco yesterday to participate in the Jerusalem Committee meeting. We briefed him on the latest round of talks in Washington, which I regret to say were stopped because Israel decided to end them without agreement. We told the Israeli delegation that stopping the talks was a unilateral decision, because all parties usually agree when to end them. We have reached a deadlock on the venue for talks. Like the other Arab delegations, the Lebanese, especially, adhered to its position in Washington. It pleases me to say that coordination found the other Arab delegations endorsing the same position. There was no progress on the conference which started in Madrid.

Hizballah Criticizes Saudis for Hosting Jews

NC2401090692 Ba'labakk Voice of the Oppressed in Arabic 0630 GMT 24 Jan 92

[Text] Reacting to a report that the Saudi regime received a delegation of U.S. Jews, a responsible Hizballah source issued a statement drawing attention to the regime's relations with Zionist Jews. The source said that the Saudi regime previously secretly regarded this relationship as religiously permissible but now deems it to be a public duty.

The source added that the Jewish delegation's visit is part of the Saudi regime's overt efforts to normalize relations with the usurping entity, describing it as a grave step and denouncing this Wahhabi violation of Islamic principles and holy places.

The source warned against any step that could free Jewish movement in Hejaz' noble land after noble Jerusalem's desecration. It called on the Arab and Muslim peoples to oppose Wahhabi-Jewish normalization that could desecrate Muslim sanctity and holy places.

Hizballah Deplores Arrest of Algeria's Hachani

NC2401084992 Ba'labakk Voice of the Oppressed in Arabic 0630 GMT 24 Jan 92

[Text] Hizballah has issued a statement in Beirut on events in Algeria, saying: The coupist council in Algeria yesterday arrested Abdelkader Hachani, interim leader of the Islamic Salvation Front [FIS]. The imposed authorities took a new series of repressive measures against the Muslim Algerian people, aiming to restrict their views and take away their freedom and choice while making the Army a tool of confrontation in the land of a million martyrs. The authorities are trying to drown Algeria in a sea of blood and to drive it into civil war.

The statement added: Muslims in Lebanon and elsewhere are closely following developments in Algeria. They will not be convinced by excuses for the arrest or the measures. They underline that they condemn the coupists' dictatorial mentality in trying to impose themselves by force on the Muslim Algerian people. They also condemn any attempt to harm the Islamic leaderships that represent the symbols and hopes of Muslims in Algeria. They warn against confronting the will of the Muslim masses, which have peacefully expressed their faith in Islam, choosing it to give them a dignified life, honor, and justice.

The Hizballah statement continued: While admiring FIS patience, nobility, awareness, perseverance, and courage, we stress that the entire Muslim nation today supports its Muslim sons and brothers in Algeria out of its commitment to its brothers in religion and to Algeria's need to remain independent.

The statement called for the immediate release of all Muslim detainees in Algeria, particularly brothers Abbassi Madani, Ali Belhadj, and Abdelkader Hachani. It said: We believe that the only legitimate authority in Algeria is that which rules according to Islam and which the people have chosen of their own free will.

Afghanistan

Yeltsin Thanks Najibollah for Russian Recognition

LD2301190192 Kabul Radio Afghanistan Network
in Pashto 1530 GMT 23 Jan 92

[Text] Esteemed Najibollah, president of Afghanistan, has received a message of thanks from Boris Nikolayevich Yeltsin, president of the Russian Federation, in reply to a message sent to him on the recognition of the Russian Federation. The message reads:

I express thanks to you for your recognition of the Russian Federation, and a readiness to continue diplomatic relations.

In the light of the new realities of the contemporary world, the new democratic Russia will go forward constantly and speedily toward the dissolution of military structures, an end to confrontation, making all international relations nonideological, and the observation of human rights. Naturally this process will not violate Russia's security.

While taking steps toward the democratization of society, the creation of a free market economy, and becoming a member of the family of modern people, we will bear in mind the protection of all the positive results that have been achieved in the past years in our relations with other countries, among them Afghanistan.

The Russian Federation, as a superpower and a permanent member of the UN Security Council, does not want to avoid its commitments. It is obvious that it wants to adjust its policy based on its national interest and resources.

Contribution to a speedy solution of the issue of Afghanistan and the establishment of peace in that country is an important aspect of Russian foreign policy.

We welcome with deep appreciation the participation of Afghanistan in the search for and release of soldiers from the former Soviet Union who were captured in Afghanistan, without its taking into account which republics of the former Soviet Union, which are now independent states, they were called up from to do their military service. Their destiny causes us concern. We look forward to the continuation of effective cooperation in this matter.

We wish peace and tranquillity to the people of Afghanistan.

Resistance Accepts Former King as Interim Head

BK2401022192 Lahore THE NATION (Islamabad
THE NATION Supplement) in English 23 Jan 92
pp 1, 12

[By Shamim Shahid]

[Text] Peshawar—A representative gathering of Afghans affiliated to various resistance groups have endorsed Pakistan's efforts for finding out a peaceful and political settlement to long awaiting Afghan problem in the light

of UN five-point peace formula. The gathering also accepted the proposal under which former King Mohammad Zahir Shah would rule Afghanistan for an interim period.

Haji Khmar Mohammad Khan, a tribal chieftain, adopted a resolution in which he said keeping in view that a vast majority of the Afghan people are in favour of restoring peace in Afghanistan as well as support a just and honourable solution of the Afghan issue, we (the participants of this jirga) are of the opinion that the former King of Afghanistan is the only Afghan personality who can become a symbol of national unity and can also provide a vitally needed leadership to head the interim government. He further said "People create suitable conditions for holding fair and free elections for an elected government in Afghanistan."

He added that, "we express our profound gratitude to the Government of Pakistan for holding recent talks of General Asif Nawaz with General Abdul Wali the representatives of former King of Afghanistan. We firmly believe that this shift of policy on the part of Pakistan Government augers well and constitutes a turning point in connection with the political resolution of the Afghan problem which will have positive and far-reaching results. We would like to inform the government and people of Pakistan that the Opposition of certain well-known Afghan elements to the former King of Afghanistan only stems from their personal grudge based on illegitimate ambitions and whims for power."

The jirga, through another resolution, condemned the remarks made by Qazi Hussain Ahmad as well as Maulana Samiul Haq against Mohammad Zahir Shah and added that such remarks could be considered shameful and a interference in the internal affairs of Afghanistan. The jirga expressed the hope that government and people of Pakistan would step up the political process in collaboration with other concerned parties to the Afghan conflict on the basis of United Nations five-point formula for early settlement of the Afghan issue.

The representatives jirga asked compatriots to beware of the sinister designs of certain elements who are bent upon hindering and obstructing peace as well as the political resolution of the Afghan problem. The jirga advised their countrymen to be vigilant in order to thwart the conspiracies hatched by the internal and external enemies of the Afghan people. It added that, "presently, the Afghan issue has entered a very sensitive and even critical phase. We support and uphold the political resolution of the Afghan problem on the basis of the five-point formula of the United Nations former Secretary General."

The jirga attended by more than 100 Afghan elders, tribal chieftains, Ulema, Mojahedin commanders and intellectuals, was addressed by Prof Rasool Amin, Chairman of the Writers Union of Free Afghanistan, Haji Karim Khan Uizai, Haji Rahikm Mangal, Maulvi Amirzada, Commander Adam Khan, Wakeel Wazir

Mohammad, Maulana Abdul Baqi, Malik Nadar Khan, Sardar Khan Mohmand, Azeem Khan, Hafiz Pehiwan, Haji Koz Mohammad, Abdul Kalam Hotak and others. A number of activists of Hezb-e Eslami Hekmatyar and Jamiat-e Eslami of Prof. Rabbani also attended the proceeding of the traditional Afghan jirga and endorsed its decision for resolving of the Afghan conflict through peaceful and political ways.

The speakers made it clear that Afghan people will not allow anyone to interfere in their internal affairs.

The Afghan elders appreciated the support of Pakistan and its people with the Afghan Mohajedin through which they enabled of defeating a Soviet like a superpower. [sentence as published] They suggested the Pakistani authorities to continue such support with them in order to restore a peaceful atmosphere in war-devasted Afghanistan as well as an early and honourable return of the Afghan refugees to their homeland. They also suggested the Pakistani Government to invite former King as head of the interim government for bringing an end to ongoing bloodshed in Afghanistan.

Referring to the role of Peshawar resistance leaders, most of the speakers said that such people want continuation of war in Afghanistan for their own and personal interests. Such so-called leaders having no concern about refugees who passing through miserable conditions in camps. They claimed that the Afghan people were not more able to see bloodshed in their homeland and want early restoration of a peace. They suggested the world countries to follow wishes of the majority of Afghan instead of a few individuals and find out an early settlement to Afghan conflict.

Speaking in favour of the former King, the Afghan elders denied the impression that ex-King didn't play any role in the last 13-year jihad and said that more than 10 members of Zahir Shah family were martyred when they refused to bow down their heads before the Communist rulers. They said that ex-King was not only acceptable to majority of the Afghans but he also served the Afghans for 40 years like a servant not as a king.

Jami'at Members Kill Hezb-e Eslami Leader

*LD2301143392 Kabul Radio Afghanistan Network
in Dari 1330 GMT 23 Jan 92*

[Text] Mawlawi Mohammad Anwar, a ringleader of the Hezb-e Eslami of Golboddin, was killed yesterday as a result of an attack by individuals of the Jami'at formation in parts of Baharak district, Badakhshan Province.

According to the BIA military section, the murder took place as a result of the long continuing differences and retaliatory attacks by the Jami'at formation and the Islamic Party of Golboddin.

Groups belonging to Mahaz-e Eslami attacked the centers of Hezb-e Eslami of Khales in parts of [name indistinct] district, Nangarhar Province the day before yesterday.

The BIA military section reports that during the attack, two members of the Islamic Party of Khales were killed, and several pieces of weapons and a large quantity of ammunition belonging to them were destroyed.

Hezb-e Eslami Attacked in Nangarhar

*LD2401113192 Kabul Radio Afghanistan Network
in Dari 1330 GMT 22 Jan 92*

[Text] A center of the Hezb-e Eslami Khales faction was attacked by rival groups in the Shiwa district of Nangarhar yesterday. According to a report from the BIA military section, four people were killed and three injured during the attack, in which the belligerents used various types of heavy weapons.

According to another report, a ringleader of the Hezb-e Eslami Khales faction was killed and two others injured yesterday in the Torkham area of Nangarhar when a mine planted by a rival group exploded.

According to yet another report from the BIA military section, the ringleader of the Mahaz-e Eslami group was killed in the Solayman Ghar area of Nangarhar Province as a result of the explosion of a mine planted by the Hezb-e Eslami Golboddin faction.

Pakistan Reports Afghan POW Release

*BK2401025192 Islamabad THE PAKISTAN TIMES
in English 23 Jan 92 p 10*

[Text] Peshawar, Jan. 22—As many as 1000 Afghan prisoners of war captured during the fall of Khowst in March last, were released by Maulvi Jalaluddin Haqqani.

Majority of these soldiers were from regular Afghan Army and the Geelam Jan militia.

Maulavi Jalaluddin Haqqani told a group of newsmen at Zhakwara in Paktia province, that during the fall of Khowst, 1,700 soldiers were captured by the Mojahedin of his group out of whom a considerable number was released on Soviet military intervention day, while some were freed on appeals from different quarters.

He conceded that a large number of other soldiers fled the Mojahedin captivity and rejoined the regime forces.

He said that now only 190 officers and high ranking officials including five generals were in his captivity. A decision would be taken in the near future about them.

Maulvi Haqqani said that during the 10 months captivity, the regime personnel were taught the tenets of Islam and they were now good professing Muslims.

He took avowtions [as published] from the released soldiers that they will not rejoin the regime troops to fight against recaptured while fighting against the Mojahedin, and warned that if any one of them was recaptured while fighting against the Mojahedin he will never be forgiven and face death penalties. [sentence as published]

He told the POWs, present on the occasion, that they were free to go anywhere or join any group or party of the Mojahedin for fighting against the despicable regime, according to their own sweet will.

On this occasion, he issued good conduct certificates to these POWs and lauded their services in the Mojahedin captivity. He also recalled some of those POWs, who laid down their lives while fighting against the puppet regime forces alongside the Mojahedin in the recent Gardesey operation which ended in fiasco.

Commander Jalaluddin Haqqani urged the soldiers who were set free to work for Islam and advocate its cause. He said that by releasing the POWs, he wanted to show to the world that the Mojahedin do not avenge those who lay down arms and repent over their past mischiefs.

Mojahedin Radio Begins Broadcasting

BK2401025392 Peshawar THE FRONTIER POST
in English 23 Jan 92 p 2

[Text] A Mojahedin run radio, Pyam-i-Azadi (message of independence) commenced its initial broadcasts from inside Afghanistan on Tuesday, reports ANA.

On the inaugural day of its broadcasts the radio aired the message of Hezb-e-Eslami amir, Engineer Golboddin Hikmatyar. Director of the radio, Mr. Qaribur Rehman Saeed told ANA in a wireless interview from inside Afghanistan that the broadcasts of the radio are available on 7100 khz in the 42 meter bands from 6.30 to 8.00 a.m. and 7.00 to 8.00 p.m.

The timings of the radio transmission and its range will be increased in the near future.

Bangladesh

Two Killed in Local Election Violence

BK2301130292 Dhaka Radio Bangladesh External
Service in English 1230 GMT 23 Jan 92

[Text] On the second day of union parishad [council] elections in Bangladesh, brisk polling was reported in 53 unions of nine districts Thursday. Elections were held in 598 unions of 63 (?districts) on Wednesday.

According to reports, polling was peaceful except violence in some places. BSS, quoting official sources, says two persons were killed. The elections to all union parishads will be held in phases till the 6th of next month.

Sources Say Burmese Border Tension Easing

BK2301145292 Hong Kong AFP in English 1437 GMT
23 Jan 92

[Excerpt] Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh, Jan 23 (AFP)—A month of tension along Bangladesh's border with Burma

is easing with troops this side on stepped-down alert and the influx of Moslem refugees slowing, security sources here said Thursday.

"There is no such tension now and the problems between the two neighbours are being worked out diplomatically," one local border official at this tourist town near the border said on condition of anonymity.

In Dhaka, another security source said local newspapers were blowing the situation out of proportion and "fighting a make-believe war, because the (military) situation was absolutely calm now."

Some troops deployed near the Burmese border following the December 21 frontier flareup have either been pulled back or put on a lower level of alert, he added.

An AFP correspondent, who Wednesday visited some of the border villages and refugee camps near here, said the border was quiet with Bangladeshi troops relaxed and busy with regular duties.

On the other side of the frontier across the Naaf River, Burmese troops have also withdrawn from their advance border positions leaving the "Lunthin" border guards and police to man the 240 kilometre (175 mile) frontier, the border official said, adding Burmese troops might not, however, be far from the front.

In the government-backed Deochia Palong border camp near here, only 40 refugee families arrived Wednesday, compared to the much larger daily arrivals seen a few days ago, local civil officials said.

A smaller group of refugees were seen entering Bangladesh Thursday, but there was no major exodus as had been feared earlier, they said.

Reasons cited for the lessening tension and slow influx included a planned third round of talks between local commanders of the Lunthin and the Bangladesh Rifles (BDR) January 28 inside Burma on the border situation and the influx of minority Rohingya Moslems from neighbouring Arakan Province in Burma.

Relations between Dhaka and Rangoon were strained after Burmese troops allegedly raided a BDR border outpost last month leaving four Bangladeshis including a soldier dead.

Dhaka protested the raid, officially denied by Rangoon, which came amid a near-year-long influx of refugees alleging atrocities by Burmese troops on the minority Moslems. No precise figures were available on the number of refugees, but local official estimates vary between 25,000 to 30,000—almost half the figure claimed by unofficial and refugee sources.

The refugees claim they are being driven out by Burmese troops, but Rangoon insists its military operations in the border area are aimed at rebel Moslem mujahedin and not the Moslem population as a whole. Despite an apparent lowering of military and diplomatic tension,

the refugees managing to cross the border continue to accuse Burmese troops of raiding houses, kidnappings, forcing people to labour, killings, torture and rape. [passage omitted]

India

Bomb Explodes in Kashmir Police Chief's Office

BK2401085892 Delhi All India Radio Network
in English 0830 GMT 24 Jan 92

[Text] In Jammu and Kashmir, militants attacked the office of the director general of police with rockets in Srinagar this morning. A UNI report from Srinagar says that some senior officers have been injured.

[Hong Kong AFP in English at 0845 GMT on 24 January in a similar report adds:

"Kashmir police chief Jitendra Nath Saxena and five other top officials were seriously injured Friday when suspected Moslem militants set off a powerful explosion in the fortified police headquarters here.

"The explosion occurred at 12:10 p.m. local time (0640 GMT), while Saxena was in his office, police sources said, adding that the chamber was completely wrecked by the powerful blast. Earlier reports said the timber-built two-storey building was attacked by rockets and gunfire, but officials later said it appeared to have been a time bomb."

The report adds further: "Paramilitary troopers and police reinforcements sailed off the area and clamped a curfew on downtown Srinagar, Kashmir's summer capital, moments after the attack, the first against the police headquarters. The attack occurred ahead of the arrival of a planned Hindu motorcade in the city Sunday."]

Army Imposes 'Indefinite' Curfew

BK2401120892 Delhi All India Radio Network
in English 1135 GMT 24 Jan 92

[Text] In Jammu and Kashmir, curfew has been imposed in Srinagar following the rocket attack on the office of the director general of police by militants in the city this morning. The attack caused an explosion damaging a portion of the building. It also caused a minor fire which was immediately brought under control.

[Hong Kong AFP in English at 1043 GMT on 24 January adds the following:

"Indian army soldiers fanned out in this city Friday some four hours after a powerful explosion ripped through the police headquarters here, injuring the northern state's five top security officers.

"A Jammu and Kashmir official spokesman said the army has been 'authorised to enforce' an indefinite curfew clamped after the blast which badly wounded Kashmir police chief Jitendra Nath Saxena."

The report further adds: "The attack has left the Kashmir police department and two main Indian paramilitary organisations in the state virtually leaderless.

"Three other towns in the Kashmir valley are already under army control."]

BJP March Continues Amid Call for Suspension

BK2301162692 Delhi All India Radio Network
in English 1530 GMT 23 Jan 92

[Text] The BJP [Bharatiya Janata Party] has agreed to prune the size of the Ekta Yatra [unity march] to Srinagar for hoisting the national flag on Republic Day. In a statement in New Delhi today, the party leader, Mr. L.K. Advani, said that the decision of the party has been conveyed to the government. The BJP vice president, Mr. K.R. Malkani, told our correspondent that the party leaders—Mr. Advani and Mr. Vajpayee—will reach in Jammu tomorrow to take a decision on the size of the yatra after consulting the party president, Dr. Murli Manohar Joshi.

The center had earlier appealed to the BJP to give up the yatra through Punjab and Jammu and Kashmir in the national interest. The home minister, Mr. Chavan, had said that the circumstances in those states are not favorable. He had said that the BJP should consider the national importance of Punjab elections and desist from continuing the yatra. Mr. Chavan pointed out that the Ekta Yatra will provide soft targets for the militants' attack. The center has sent a communication to all concerned states to take all precautionary steps for beefing up security.

The cabinet committee on political affairs took stock of the Ekta Yatra this morning again. Briefing newsmen, the official spokesman said the center is constantly monitoring reports from the states from which the yatra is now passing. The roadside areas along the passage of the yatra are being regularly combed. The Jammu and Kashmir government requisitioned more companies of the Border Security Force to augment the existing strength of the security forces. The Army is standing by to provide protection to the yatra.

In Punjab, militants killed four persons of an advance party of the Ekta Yatra near village Mehta on the Phagwara-Jullundur National Highway this morning. Those killed included a driver of a bus; 26 others are reported to be injured, two of them seriously. All the three persons killed belonged to Mathura and the driver was from New Delhi. The group was on its way to Jammu when the militants forced two buses to stop at gunpoint and fired indiscriminately. A massive manhunt has been launched to nab the militants. Reports reaching New Delhi say the main yatra later passed off the Phagwara area peacefully.

The BJP president, Dr. Murli Manohar Joshi, has condemned the attack on buses this morning. He described it as a cowardly act. Addressing a rally in Jullundur, he

said Pakistan is trying to disintegrate India and is solely responsible for increasing militancy in Punjab and Jammu and Kashmir. Dr. Joshi said that the yatra will continue and reach Srinagar. Later in the evening, Dr. Joshi left Jullundur for Pathankote.

Expressing shock over the incident, the BJP leader, Mr. L.K. Advani, said that the government cannot escape responsibility for the tragedy.

The chief ministers of Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, and Madhya Pradesh have strongly condemned the incident.

The Congress-I has urged the BJP to stop the yatra. Reacting to reports about the militants' attack, the party spokesman, Mr. Chandulal Chandrakar, said the BJP should have heeded to the home minister's appeal and cut short their yatra in the national interest.

Marchers Reach Jammu

BK2401115692 Delhi All India Radio Network
in English 1135 GMT 24 Jan 92

[Text] The Ekta Yatra [unity march] led by the BJP [Bharatiya Janata Party] president, Dr. Murli Manohar Joshi, has reached Jammu this afternoon. A large number of workers from different parts of the country and several senior leaders have also arrived in Jammu.

Addressing a gathering at Lakhanpur, Dr. Joshi said that Jammu and Kashmir is an integral part of India and no power on earth can separate it. He said terrorism is the biggest threat to our democracy and it should be curbed with stern measures. He said it is due to terrorism that about 300,000 Kashmiris, including Hindus, Sikhs, and Muslims, had to leave Kashmir.

On his way to Jammu, Dr. Joshi addressed several public meetings. Soon after his arrival in Jammu, the BJP leader was taken in a procession throughout the bazaars of Jammu. The procession terminated at Parade Ground where he is scheduled to address a public meeting later today.

Iran

Russian Nuclear Experts, Equipment Said Acquired

TA2101145192 (Clandestine) Iran's Flag of Freedom
Radio in Persian 1630 GMT 20 Jan 92

[Text] Following the denial by officials of the Islamic Republic of the purchase of nuclear technology from the former Soviet republics, we have learned that the Tehran regime recently recruited six Russian nuclear experts.

It has also been reported that the Turkmenian Republic has agreed to deliver several heavy-water laboratories and uranium enrichment equipment to the Islamic Republic. It is said in this connection that a heavy-water laboratory and one uranium-enrichment facility have already been sent to Iran and have been set up in an area near Tehran.

Velayati Refutes Report

LD2301154292 Tehran IRNA in English 1422 GMT
23 Jan 92

[Text] Tehran, Jan 23, IRNA—The Islamic Republic of Iran has concluded two political and economic agreements with the newly-independent Republic of Ukraine, said Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati of his two-day visit to Kiev.

The pacts outline mutual cooperation at regional and international levels, Velayati told a press conference here today. He returned home Wednesday after meeting Ukrainian President Leonid Kravchuk and handing him a message from President Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani.

Referring to Ukraine's ample potential in agriculture, industries and natural resources, Velayati said there are "vast" grounds for cooperation between the two countries.

Within the next two or three months, he said, many delegations from both sides would visit Tehran and Kiev in line with the interest of the two states in promoting bilateral relations, including a delegation led by Oil Minister Gholam Reza Aqazadeh which would depart for the Ukrainian capital next week.

The foreign minister brushed aside as "biased" Western mass media claims on attempts by Iran to obtain nuclear weapons, saying "the Islamic Republic has always announced its conformity to international regulations."

On the recent visit to Tehran by Turkmenian Vice President Chareyev, Velayati said the visit led to the signing of a series of agreements in industrial, oil and commercial fields.

"Iran is to export 6.5 million tons of crude oil to Turkmenistan annually, set up a plant producing lubricants in that country and help it in exploration and exploitation of oil and gas," he said.

Velayati cited Iran's readiness to buy three billion cubic meters of gas and 150,000 tons of gas oil from Turkmenistan as other accords concluded between the two sides.

According to the foreign minister, Iran and Turkmenia are to cooperate in constructing Sarakhs-Tajan railroad, activating their ports on both sides of the Caspian Sea, establishing air link and building two dams over the border rivers, Atrak and Tajan.

Iran has agreed to open a branch of Saderat Bank in the Turkmen capital, Ashkhabad, to provide credits to that country to purchase Iranian commodities, set up two 12 channel telephone switching centers in Sarakhs and Bajgiran border crossings, he said.

Velayati Discusses Visit to Ukraine

*LD2201164792 Tehran IRNA in English 1510 GMT
22 Jan 92*

[Text] Tehran, Jan. 22, IRNA—Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati returned here today after a successful two-day visit to the newly independent Republic of Ukraine. In Kiev, Velayati and his delegation inaugurated the Islamic Republic Embassy, and among other agreements inked an industrial-economic protocol. According to the protocol, Iran and Ukraine are to set up a joint economic commission, and that Iranian Oil Minister Gholam Reza Aqazadeh would soon visit Kiev to work out cooperation in the field of oil and natural gas.

Ukraine's first deputy prime minister who inked the protocol told Velayati that his country is interested in "strong and stable ties with Iran." He saw a bright future for Tehran-Kiev relations, and suggested that the two countries cooperate in commercial shipping. He also announced willingness to export manganese, iron, phosphate and cement to Iran. Velayati welcomed the coming trip to Iran of an Ukrainian economic delegation, as well as the expected opening of an Ukrainian Embassy in Tehran.

Earlier on Tuesday, Velayati delivered President Leonid Kravchuk a message from President Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani, and signed a diplomatic protocol in a separate meeting with his Ukrainian counterpart Anatoliy Maxomovich Zlenkov.

Velayati, Afghans Hold Talks on Islamic Government

*LD2301172392 Tehran IRIB Television First
Program Network in Persian 1530 GMT 23 Jan 92*

[Text] Mawlawi Mansur and Mawlawi Mo'azen, leaders of independent Afghan jihad groups, met today with Foreign Minister Velayati. During the meeting Mawlawi Mansur said: The Afghan people's jihad is currently at a stage which requires a new move to establish an Islamic government in Afghanistan. He emphasized: We expect, as before, that the Islamic Republic of Iran will continue its efforts to have such a move materialize.

Mawlawi Mo'azen also referred to world developments and the situation in the region. He said: The people of Afghanistan hope that an Islamic government is established in Afghanistan through the continuous efforts of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Mr. Velayati praised the self-sacrifice of the Afghan people and said: The Islamic Republic of Iran will continue its efforts toward achieving a speedy solution to the Afghanistan problem.

Deputy Minister Notes 'New Initiative'

*NC2301153792 Paris AFP in English 1421 GMT
23 Jan 92*

[Text] Tehran, Jan 23 (AFP)—Iran is considering a new initiative to secure a political settlement in Afghanistan,

Iranian Deputy Foreign Minister Ala-ed-Din Borujerdi disclosed Thursday during a meeting here with Afghan rebels.

"We hope that this new initiative will lead to a solution of the Afghan problem," Borujerdi said. He did not elaborate.

He stressed that his government was still providing "humanitarian assistance" to residents of Kabul and other parts of Afghanistan and that Tehran could not remain "indifferent" to the influx of Afghan emigres seeking refuge in Iran.

The Afghan delegation arrived Wednesday in Iran and is conducted by Mawlawi Mansur and Mawlawi Mo'azen, two key leaders of independent Afghan parties.

Conference Views Afghan Situation

*LD2301182792 Tehran IRIB Television Second
Program Network in English 1615 GMT 23 Jan 92*

[Text] Today the Afghan Research and Studies Center opened its fourth conference on the political situation in Afghanistan, in Tehran.

The representative of Islamic revolution's leader for Afghan affairs, Hojjat ol-Eslam Ebrahimi, at the conference's opening session, said that the victory of Iran's Islamic revolution brought about a revival of Islam across the Muslim world. He said: Upon the arrival of Islam, the oppressive powers adopted a hostile stand against Islam and Muslims. Referring to the Islamic movements in Algeria, Morocco, Tunisia, Egypt, and other Muslims countries, Hojjat ol-Eslam Ebrahimi said that Afghan people are capable of establishing an Islamic government due to their unity and solidarity.

The future of Afghanistan and the history of relations between Iran and Afghanistan were among the topics which were discussed at the one-day conference.

Commentaries Assess UN-Libya Lockerbie Situation

'Selective' Fight Against Terrorism Scored

*LD2201135992 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic
of Iran First Program Network in Persian 1108 GMT
22 Jan 92*

[Station commentary: "The UN Security Council Resolution Against Libya"]

[Excerpts] The UN Security Council yesterday issued a resolution calling on Libya to respond fully and decisively to the requests made by the United States, France, and Britain regarding the crashed U.S. and French passenger airliners. [passage omitted]

The issuing of this resolution by the Security Council should be assessed from different perspectives, for it should be noted that Libya has repeatedly declared that it is prepared to cooperate with the relevant international organizations in order to examine the accusations.

Libya has also called for the formation of an Arab-international investigation commission. However, America, Britain, and France rejected Libya's proposals before this resolution was issued and therefore confronted the Security Council with certain presumptions before it passed the aforementioned resolution.

Thus, bearing in mind America's influence over the council, it can be logically concluded that the shadow of America's policy has been cast over the spirit of Resolution 731. [passage omitted]

Of course, there can be no doubt about the need for combating the phenomenon of terrorism—under all its guises. But what should be noted here is that the fight against terrorism should not be selective, international laws should not be ignored, and countries' rights of sovereignty should not be violated under the guise of combating terrorism. This is because the consequences of the violation of international laws are equal to the sinister consequences of terrorism. [passage omitted]

In any case, referring the case of the accused Libyan nationals to an international body will only serve to end this sensational case, if no pressures are brought to bear on that body, so that it may investigate the case in a completely unbiased manner.

U.S. Objectives Questioned

NC2201195092 *Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran in Arabic* 1754 GMT 22 Jan 92

[Political commentary]

[Text] Last night the Security Council issued Resolution 731 in which it called on Libya to cooperate with current investigations into the bombing of a Pan Am aircraft in 1988 and a French plane in 1989. Resolution 731 essentially is linked to a legal issue. Therefore, some international forums believe that the Security Council, for the first time in its history, has interfered in a legal dispute.

At the same time, a Libyan official made statements in which he rejected the accusations leveled against his country that it was involved in arranging the bombing of the U.S. and French planes. He then added that the investigation of these accusations has been diverted from its legal framework and transformed into a political issue. The Libyan official affirmed that the Security Council should apply international law in investigating this issue; it should not be carrying out the investigation according to the political stands and interests of the Security Council's permanent member states making the accusations.

Commenting on this, the assistant Iranian UN envoy has clarified the Islamic Republic's stand that the case involving U.S. accusations against Libya should be referred to an international legal body and that the issue should be resolved peacefully. The Iranian official added that according to the 1971 Montreal Convention [on

extradition], Libya is not obliged to hand over its subjects to the countries making allegations. According to its legal privileges, it has the right to try and punish the defendants through its own judicial system.

On the other hand, reports show that the United States and Britain are refusing to supply Libya with any of the information they have gathered from their investigation into the bombing of the U.S. airplane over Scotland. At the same time, some Western states have ignored Libya's rights as an independent country that can administer its own laws and judicial system. Instead, by presenting the issue to the Security Council and taking a certain stand against Libya, they have made some proposals through which one concludes that they are hoping to achieve U.S. and British political objectives and goals, especially because these two sides are ignoring Libya's fundamental demand of referring the case to the international judiciary and following up on the issue through peaceful means. This is what increases doubts about the United States' real intentions.

Political forums also believe that the White House's conclusions and explanations about the bases of the new world order have taken a practical form, especially after the Persian Gulf war. The world is now witnessing the U.S. exploitation of political pressures to remove obstacles before implementing its expansionist policies in the region and the world. Washington is exerting diplomatic efforts to isolate countries that do not follow U.S. standards; it implements its policies under the guise of international organizations and forums. This helps mar these organizations' reputations and casts doubts on their role in resolving international issues and disputes.

Oil Minister Urges OPEC Unity To Raise Prices

NC2101091792 *Paris AFP in English* 0833 GMT 21 Jan 92

[Text] Tehran, Jan 21 (AFP)—Iranian Oil Minister Gholam Reza Aghazadeh on Tuesday urged fellow members in the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) to close ranks to improve the market and increase oil prices.

"World recession, namely in the United States, as well as irresponsible over-production by some OPEC members have led to the current crisis on the market," Aghazadeh said in an interview with ABRAR newspaper.

"The situation forced the OPEC president to urge member countries to reduce their production," Aghazadeh said, adding that Iran was among those nations which heeded the call.

"Unity among OPEC members is essential to improve the market situation and gradually increase the cost of oil," Aghazadeh said.

On Monday an Oil Ministry official here said Iran would trim its production by 50,000 barrels per day starting

Wednesday to boost the price of oil, adding that next month's OPEC meeting in Geneva would be an "important" one.

Libya, Nigeria and Venezuela have also said they would cut production by a total of 130,000 barrels per day between them.

Velayati, Greek Official Discuss Regional Issues

LD2301174992 Tehran IRIB Television First
Program Network in Persian 1530 GMT 23 Jan 92

[Text] Greek Deputy Foreign Minister Panayotis Economou met this afternoon with Foreign Minister Velayati and emphasized the expansion of bilateral ties and the strengthening of relations between the EC and Iran.

Mr. Economou said that considering the regional and international status of the two countries, we believe that just as Greece is an agent for stability in the Balkans, the Islamic Republic of Iran—considering its power, economic capabilities, and human resources—is in a position to adopt a role of leadership and of maintaining stability in the crucial Persian Gulf region.

The Greek deputy foreign minister also referred to the upcoming visit by the Greek prime minister to our country and called it a positive step toward expanding ties between the two countries.

Government Reportedly Executes 28

TA2201154092 (Clandestine) Iran's Flag of Freedom
Radio in Persian 1630 GMT 21 Jan 92

[Text] On the proposal of Shaykh Mohammad Yazdi, head of judicial power, and the order of Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i, 26 of our compatriots were executed in the dreadful Evin and Karaj Prisons.

Thus the regime's black record of killing and torturing Iranian freedom-seekers has grown even longer.

IRGC, Armed Forces Come Under Single Command

LD2201150192 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic
of Iran First Program Network in Persian 0740 GMT
22 Jan 92

[From the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps program]

[Text] The armed forces general staff corps has had its name changed to the armed forces general staff [setad-e koll-e niruha-ye mosallah].

Mr. Firuzabadi, chief of the armed forces general staff, announced this during a ceremony held at the general staff premises on the occasion of the joyous birthday anniversary of holy 'Ali, peace be upon him. Mr. Firuzabadi said: Accordingly, the Army, the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps [IRGC], and the rest of the armed forces are under a single general staff—the armed forces general staff.

During the ceremony the issuance of a charter for the formation of the Armed Forces Supreme Policy-Making Council [shora-ye ali-ye siyasat-gozari-ye niruha-ye mosallah] was announced.

New IRGC Air Force Commander Named

LD1801170692 Tehran IRIB Television First
Program Network in Persian 1530 GMT 18 Jan 92

["Text" of edict issued by Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i, leader of the Islamic revolution and commander in chief of the armed forces, on 18 January; place not given]

[Text] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful.

To Brigadier General Mohammad Hoseyn Jalali:

In view of your worthy record and valuable experience, as well as your bravery on the battlefronts and the grave responsibilities that you undertook in the Islamic Republic of Iran's Army and Ministry of Defense throughout the imposed war, and also keeping in mind the statement made by our illustrious demised imam in reference to the Army and the Islamic Revolution Guard Corps [IRGC], which he described as the two arms of the revolution—a wise statement that necessitates cooperation and coordination among these two organizations in all aspects—I hereby transfer you to the IRGC at the recommendation of the IRGC commander, and appoint you to the post of commander of the IRGC Air Force. Your duty is to ensure the highest degree of competence in that force, to use all its capacities, and in particular to endeavor to train able commanders. Cooperation and coordination with the IRGC's other forces, through the IRGC joint staff, and with the other armed forces through the IRGC hierarchy and the Armed Forces General Command Headquarters, is another important duty that I must emphasize. The IRGC Air Force personnel are duty bound to value your presence in that force, and will therefore give the greatest possible cooperation.

I deem it necessary to express my gratitude to Brig. Gen. Hoseyn Dehqan for his relentless efforts and services rendered during his term as commander of the IRGC Air Force, and I hope that his experiences and expertise will be taken advantage of in the armed forces.

[Signed] Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i, 28 Dey 1370 [18 January 1992]

Pakistan

More on Visit by Libyan Staff Major Jallud

Meets Prime Minister

LD2401084592 Tripoli JANA in English 1433 GMT
23 Jan 92

[Text] Islamabad, Ay al-Nar [January] 22 JAMAHA-RIYAH NEWS AGENCY—Major 'Abd al-Salam Ahmad Jallud met Mohammad Nawaz Sharif, the prime minister of Pakistan, in Islamabad yesterday.

The meeting was attended by the secretary of the People's Committee for Foreign Liaison and International Co-operation Bureau, the secretary of the General People's Committee for Light Industries, the oil minister and the personal adviser of the prime minister of Pakistan.

Staff Major 'Abd al-Salam Ahmad Jallud and his accompanying delegation arrived in Islamabad yesterday on a visit to Pakistan.

Meets Foreign Minister

LD2401054192 Tripoli JANA in English 1436 GMT
23 Jan 92

[Text] Islamabad, Ay al-Nar [January] 23 (JAMAHARIYAH NEWS AGENCY)—Mohammed Nawaz Sharif of Pakistan hosted a banquet in his home in honour of Staff Major 'Abd al-Salam Ahmad Jallud.

The guests included the secretaries of the People's Committee for Foreign Liaison and International Co-operation, the People's Committee for Scientific Research, the General People's Committee for Light Industry and the ministers of oil, information, military industries, manpower, electricity and technology and the special advisor to the prime minister of Pakistan.

The dinner was also attended by the Arab ambassadors and charge d'affaires accredited to Pakistan.

Meets With President

BK2301153592 Islamabad Radio Pakistan Network
in Urdu 1500 GMT 23 Jan 92

[Text] A Libyan delegation led by 'Abd al-Salam Jallud, a member of the Revolutionary Command Council of Libya, called on President Ghulam Ishaq Khan in Islamabad today. They exchanged views on ways and means to further strengthen unity among Islamic states.

Jallud apprised the president of the country's stand on the latest UNSC resolution on Libya. The president underlined the need for complete unity among Islamic countries, adding that the Islamic Conference Organization should be strengthened to bring Islamic states closer in a meaningful manner. Ghulam Ishaq Khan informed Jallud of Pakistan's desire to increase its cooperation with Libya in economic and technical fields.

To Raise 'U.S. Threat' Issue

BK2201135692 Peshawar THE FRONTIER POST
in English 21 Jan 92 p 1

[By Sikander Hayat]

[Text] Islamabad—Libya is likely to raise the issue of U.S. threat to penalise Tripoli for its alleged involvement in the Pan Am disaster four years back at the 31st Afro-Asian Legal Experts conference beginning here next week.

A high-powered Libyan delegation led by President Mu'amar al-Qadhafi's close confidant 'Abd al-Salam Jallud is

expected to be here coincidental to the conference which will last 10 days. Mr Jallud, accompanied by a team of ministers, will arrive here on January 22 direct from Beijing which the Libyans are presently visiting.

At the same time the Libyan visitor will hold talks with President Ghulam Ishaq Khan, Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif and senior officials of the foreign office.

Libyans would like to seek Pakistani support at the United Nations at a special session which Tripoli intends to call to charge Washington with "state terrorism".

The Libyan team would have come here earlier but for the American pressure on Pakistan government the decision to welcome the Libyans is one of the most difficult the Pakistan government has taken in recent times an observer said.

In the wake of new world order which has the propensity to isolate Pakistan, Iran, China and Libya and turn them into international pariahs, diplomatic observers see the possibility of growing relationship between Islamabad and Libya.

Sindh Chief Condemns Jeay Sindh Statement

BK1901155892 Islamabad Radio Pakistan Network
in Urdu 1500 GMT 19 Jan 92

[Text] Sindh Chief Minister Jam Sadiq Ali has said his government has taken serious note of the venomous statements issued by the leaders of the Jeay Sindh movement against the stability of the country at Naisar Park in Karachi last Friday [17 January] and has taken stern action against them under the Constitution of the country and relevant laws. In a statement issued in Karachi today, he said he will not allow anyone to work against the stability and solidarity of the country. Jam Sadiq Ali said the government will not allow anyone to cast an evil eye on the country.

Strike Protests Leader Detainment

BK2201035092 Delhi All India Radio Network
in English 0245 GMT 22 Jan 92

[Text] In Pakistan a strike is being observed in Sindh Province today in protest against the detention of the Jeay Sindh leader Mr. G. M. Syed. Mr. Syed was placed under house arrest last Saturday for delivering a speech in Karachi favoring the formation of an independent Sindh state. The Sindh Government has stepped up patrolling in sensitive areas, particularly (Reba tracks), which has been the target of protestors since the arrest of Mr. Syed. Meanwhile, it has been reported that Mr. Syed and his supporters are to be tried by a special court on charges of treason.

Interior Minister Defends Sindh

BK2201101192 Islamabad Radio Pakistan Network
in Urdu 0200 GMT 22 Jan 92

[Text] Interior Minister Chaudhary Shujat Hussain said it is now time to work and give up the politics of compromise. He was speaking at a meeting of the Pakistan Muslim League workers, which was organized to offer condolences on the recent death of some party leaders. He said the traitors of Pakistan will not be allowed to accomplish their despicable plots and that they will be sternly dealt with and given the punishment they deserve. He said the people of Sindh are patriots and the government will not tolerate elements who want to fragment the country.

Abdus Sattar Lalika, federal minister for information and broadcasting, also addressed the meeting and described the steps taken by the Sindh government against the recent rally of the Jeay Sindh Movement at Naisar Park in Karachi as appropriate and bold. He said the sacking of the special assistant to the chief minister is a testament to this. He criticized the opposition for not taking any action against the two opposition leaders for taking part in the Jeay Sindh meeting in Naisar Park.

Former Intelligence Chief 'Prematurely' Retired

BK2401024192 Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English
23 Jan 92 p 1

[Text] Islamabad, Jan. 22—Lt. Gen. Hami Gul who was recently appointed as Chairman Heavy Rebuild Factory Taxila has been prematurely retired from Pakistan Army services from Thursday (January 23, 1992).

General Hamid Gul who was holding the charge of Corps Commander at Multan earlier declined to report for his new posting. Instead he submitted his joining report at the Ministry of Defence, Rawalpindi. The celebrated General who remained as chief of Inter-Services Intelligence for three years had played the key role in Afghan war during the Soviet occupation of Afghanistan.

The General was due to retire after a period of one year but was served with the notice of compulsory retirement today. He relinquished his charge today.

It is believed that Lt. Gen. Gul who privately used to criticise US policy towards Pakistan would write a book about the events which led to his premature retirement.

Kashmir Sets Day To Protest Indian Treatment

BK2401023292 Islamabad Radio Pakistan Network
in Urdu 0200 GMT 24 Jan 92

[Text] Black Day will be observed throughout Azad Jammu and Kashmir on Sunday [26 January, Indian Republic Day] to protest Indian troops' inhumane treatment of Kashmiri Muslims in Indian-occupied Kashmir. This was decided in Mirpur yesterday at a high-level meeting presided over by Azad Kashmir President Sardar Sikander Hayat Khan. Protest rallies and demonstrations will be staged to focus the world's attention on the need to implement the UN resolutions on Kashmir.

Sri Lanka

LTTE Militants Kill Eight Soldiers

BK2301144392 Colombo LANKAPUVATH in English
1136 GMT 23 Jan 92

["OANA/pool" item]

[Text] Colombo, 23 Jan (LANKAPUVATH)—Eight soldiers escorting Tamil refugee farmers to their rice fields were killed by LTTE [Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam] terrorists in the village of Nelukulam in Sri Lanka's northern district of Vavuniya, Wednesday [22 January].

Joint Operations Command spokesman, Col. Sarath Munasinghe, said at today's cabinet news briefing in Colombo, that the soldiers were escorting 60 farmers beyond the forward defence locality at Nelukulam when about 50 terrorists attacked the soldiers.

An air and ground operation was launched against the terrorists and a helicopter pilot had reported he had seen 20-30 terrorists being killed.

Col. Munasinghe [words indistinct] hit and run attacks on the security forces in outlandish areas was a diversionary terrorist tactic.